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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Did you vote in last week's election for a CNMI delegate to the U.S. Congress?

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43 DAYS without a government budget for FY 2009

INSIDE

Courtesy Call

President-elect Obama and his wife, Michelle, call on President Bush and first lady Laura Bush Monday at the White House.

NATION...Page 14

Oscar Buzz

Anne Hathaway seemed proud of herself but also reluctant to make too big a deal of her filming experience.

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PUC, CUC working together to set new rates. **PAGE 2**
Tim Villagomez says indictment is defective. **PAGE 5**

3K hours of outages so far

Muña: Drastic decline in outages since Aggreko came

OUTAGE BREAKDOWN

Total number of outages from January to Oct. 24, 2008
- Pre-arranged outages: 1,489 hours
- Lack of power supply: 1,395 hours
- Transformers: 22 hours
- Faulty equipment: 21 hours
- Acts of man: 55 hours
- Secondary: 32 hours;
- Others: 98 hours

Source: Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

So far this year, there have been 3,112 hours worth of power outages on Saipan, almost double what the island experienced during all of 2007, according to figures provided by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Muña

See 3K HOURS on Page 4

VETERANS DAY RITES NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

This young boy, Joden Camacho, left, and his mother, a U.S. Army officer, join veterans and government officials led by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Maj. Gen. Stephen D. Tom, Chief of Staff, U.S. Pacific Command, at yesterday's Laying of the Wreath in celebration of Veterans Day at the American Memorial Park. ***See stories on Page 3.***

Local VA office, clinic likely soon

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- WWII veteran visits Tinian after 63 years. **PAGE 3**
- "Don't waste freedoms veterans sacrificed for' **PAGE 4**

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

Talks are underway for the creation of a Veterans Affairs office and clinic to serve veterans in the Commonwealth, the CNMI Military and Veterans Affairs Office announced yesterday.

Coleman

See LOCAL on Page 4

Landowner gets his $262.9K from DPL

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Munson

The U.S. Marshals Service was able to collect$262,934.05 from the bank accounts of the Department of Public Lands to satisfy the court's judgment, costs, and interest to landowner An-

See LANDOWNER on Page 4

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Local

PUC, CUC working together to set new rates

By KRISTI EATON
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REPORTER

Consultants hired by the Public Utilities Commission met with Commonwealth Utilities Corp. officials last week, as PUC prepares a rate study in order to set new utility rates for the Commonwealth.

CUC prepared several reports for the Georgetown Consulting Group, like a month-by-month breakdown of outages since January 2007.

PUC must review and set utility rates before the Dec. 31, 2008, deadline set by law. If PUC fails to meet this deadline, CUC will be forced to reduce power rates down to 17 cents per kWh—a prospect that will make it impossible for CUC to pay for fuel supply and maintenance of its engines and to pay its independent power producers.

"They basically hit the ground running. We've been working with them and gave them a slew of reports," said CUC executive director Antonio Muña about the consultants.

The effort is collaborative between CUC and PUC, Muña stressed.

"They understand there are some areas we're challenged with, and we went through a power crisis that could have been catastrophic in terms of its impact," Muña said.

In September, PUC hired Georgetown Consulting Group as its utility regulation consulting firm and Harry Boertzel as hearing examiner. Both Georgetown and Boertzel have served in similar capacities for the Guam Public Utilities Commission for approximately 20 years.

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CNMI needs to reposition self as an NCLEX certification site

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas can still gain from Filipino nurses taking the U.S. licensing examination, despite Manila now offering the test, according to the local nursing board.

The CNMI has seen a huge drop in the number of nurses taking the National Council Licensure Examination since Manila started offering the test in August last year.

Data from the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners show that from August 2007 to July 2008, 130 nurses took the NCLEX at the PearsonVue testing center on Saipan. This is a drop of 71 percent from 461 test takers during the same period in the previous year.

But Bertha Camacho, a member of the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners, said the Commonwealth could continue to profit from the NCLEX market by repositioning itself as a facilitation office for Filipino nurses who are seeking to be certified to take the test.

Based on information from

See CNMI on Page 4

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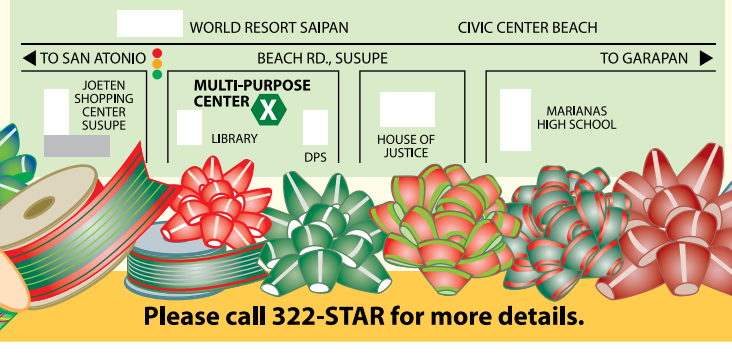

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'Milestones in US history due to veterans'

By AGNES E. DONATO
agnes_donato@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial yesterday paid tribute to the U.S. military veterans, giving them credit for recent milestones in the history of the United States and the Northern Marianas.

Fitial said the election of the very first CNMI delegate to Washington, D.C. and the election of Barack Obama as America's first African-American president would not have been possible without the sacrifices of the military veterans.

"When I think of these historic and peaceful federal elections, I cannot help thinking of our military veterans. There is a strong connection. The veterans of our armed forces have served as the guardians of our democratic way of life. They are the guardians of our constitutional government. They have been responsible for defending liberty when liberty was threatened by tyranny," the governor told the crowd gathered at American Memorial Park.

Fitial also honored the estimated 1,400 local troops who have served or still serving in the military. He noted that the commonwealth has seen "too many casualties for such a small island community."

While he expressed his sympathy for the families of the fallen soldiers, the governor said, "I do take pride in the patriotism and devotion of this small island community. We love our soldiers. The CNMI is among the most loyal and patriotic communities under the American flag."

He continued, "This is a community that strongly supports its troops and that values the service of its military veterans. All U.S. military veterans have a home in the CNMI. They are all welcome."

WWII veteran visits Tinian after 63 years

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

For the first time in 63 years, a bomb unit officer of the American armed forces in the Marianas campaign during World War II will be visiting Tinian today to revisit the site of the atomic bombs that ended the war.

Anthony Praxel was on Tinian at the time of the dropping of Fat Man and Little Boy on Nagasaki and Hiroshima but he said he didn't even know that such atomic bombs existed and were on Tinian.

He said there was a special secret unit that handled it.

"We came late in the war. We were very young. We were planning an invasion of Japan and I didn't know it. But the atomic bombs saved many lives, including ours," said Praxel, who was then a 20-year old 2nd lieutenant of the 9th Bomb Group, 313th Bomb Wing, 99 squadron.

Praxel, now 83 years old, arrived early morning yesterday in time to join the annual Veterans Day celebration at the American Memorial Park, where he received a medallion accorded all World War II veterans who fought in the Marianas campaign.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, first lady Josie Fitial and VFW Post 3457 Commander Mariano G. Fajardo presented the medallion to Praxel.

He related that his unit was assigned to five bombing missions. "We were also involved in dropping supplies in POW camps in Japan," recalled Praxel.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, first lady Josie Fitial and VFW Post 3457 Commander Mariano G. Fajardo present a medallion to Anthony Praxel during yesterday's annual Veterans Day celebration at the American Memorial Park. The medallion is accorded all World War II veterans who fought in the Marianas campaign.

From Tinian, he stayed in the Philippines for several years. "I went to pilot school and was called back to duty and served in the Korean War with the Air Force," he said.

Praxel, who retired in 1968, said he had been planning for so long to visit Tinian. He was supposed to come during the 60th anniversary but due to some reasons, he could not make it.

"I had a great time in two days here. It is really a pleasure to be here today. I appreciate the warm atmosphere," Praxel said.

Asked what was the most dangerous situation he went through during the war, he said the Marines saved his life twice while on a mission to Iwo Jima, Japan.

Praxel was accompanied from Hawaii by two other war veterans, Brian Norton and Bruce Petty of USS *Yorktown*, who both served in Vietnam in the 19506.

They joined local veterans during the celebration yesterday that included CNMI Marine Scouts Manny "Kiyu" Villagomez, Santiago Babauta, Ignacio Sablan, Antonio Tenorio and Nicolas Muna.

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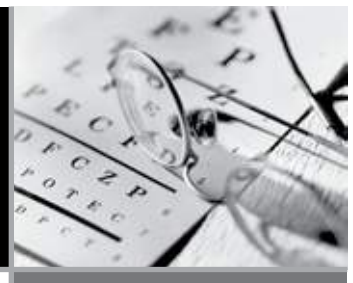

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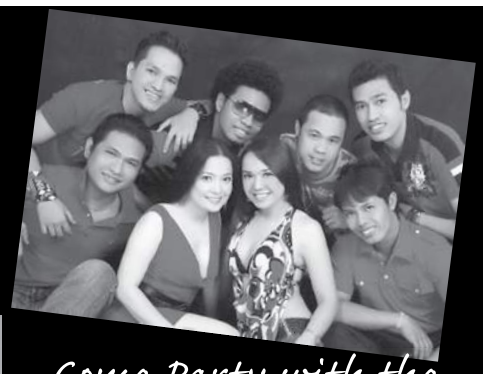

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‘Don’t waste freedoms veterans sacrificed for’

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Maj. Gen. Stephen D. Tom, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Pacific Command based in Hawaii, said the greatest thanks an American can give a veteran is not to waste the freedoms these veterans sacrificed to gain and preserve.

“Veterans know better than anyone else that freedom is not free,” Tom said in a lengthy speech he delivered at the annual celebration of Veterans Day yesterday at the Court of Honor of the American Memorial Park.

Tom thanked CNMI government officials led by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and those who organized this year’s occasion like Ruth Coleman, the executive officer of the Military and Veterans Affairs.

“It is truly an honor to stand before you representing my boss, Adm. Timothy Keating, and the over 3,000 servicemen and women serving in the United States Pacific Command,” Tom said.

This year’s celebration is to honor all who served, including those who are currently serving, as well as other veterans, past and present.

Tom traced the holiday’s origin back to then President Woodrow Wilson, who proclaimed on Nov. 11, 1919, Armistice Day with the words “the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country’s service and with gratitude for the victory.”

Congress set the same date in 1938 as a legal holiday to honor World War I veterans. In 1945 the name was changed from Armistice Day to Veterans Day, with President Dwight D. Eisenhower making the first proclamation to solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought for freedom.

“The purpose of Veterans Day is to honor America’s veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good,” Tom said.

For these reasons, it is always a privilege to be in the company of veterans, he added.

Maj. Gen. Stephen D. Tom, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Pacific Command based in Hawaii, is flanked by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Tim Villagomez during yesterday’s Veterans Day ceremonies at the American Memorial Park.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

“You are the greatest role-models for our current service members. We look to you for inspiration. It is your example of sacrifice and dedication that keeps us motivated and strong. When we hear your stories if valor and service, we definitely owe you a great debt of gratitude. Today’s service members are permanently linked to you,” Tom said.

A bomb expert officer on Tinian during World War II, Anthony Praxel, attended the ceremony for the first time in 63 years. Praxel was given a medallion to honor his sacrifices during the war.

Two other veterans who served in the Vietnam War joined local veterans. They are Brian Norton and Bruce Petty of USS *Yorktown*, who both served in Vietnam in the 1950s.

The CNMI Marine Scouts present were Manny “Kiyu” Villagomez, Santiago Babauta, Ignacio Sablan, Antonio Tenorio and Nicolas Muna.

“Your service forever links you to those defending our nation now and those who will defend it in the future. You taught us the meaning of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. Our values are a reflection of your service,” Tom said.

Tom said the parades and ceremonies are just one small gesture, a way for the American people to show them how proud they are of the veterans and what they have done.

Tom vowed to continue protecting the veterans’ legacy and hand it down to those who continue the proud tradition of service.

“Much has changed with our service members over the years, but the core values remain the same. There is no difference in the patriotism of the modern service member and their forebears,” Tom said.

Tom said the willingness to sacrifice for country and fellow service members is as timeless as it was at Normandy, the Battle of Saipan and the Battle of Tinian.

“Our service members’ desire to free oppressed people around the world is as intense today as it was at the liberation of Guam and CNMI,” he said.

Tom said that it is this love of country and the internal makeup of the American service member that will allow the success of all future challenges.

Tom told about the story of Army Specialist Ross H. McGinnis, who received the Medal of Honor, America’s highest military award, after being killed when he blocked an explosion that saved the lives of four of his fellow soldiers.

Tom recalled that McGinnis’ father said during a ceremony to “accept what my son did for you as a gift and go on with your lives and make the world a better place to live.”

“Powerful and poignant words of the meaning of sacrifice and gratitude, don’t you agree? So, I say, in so doing, all veterans will be blessed knowing their sacrifices have meaning,” Tom said.

ERRATUM

The Pacific Islands Report story titled “Palau alien workers complain of abuse” that was published in yesterday’s edition should have actually identified the country as Cook Islands, not Palau.

LANDOWNER

From Page 1

tonio S. Camacho.

With the collection of the money and subsequent payment to Camacho, U.S. District Court for the NMI chief judge Alex R. Munson has dissolved the court’s writ of execution.

Munson said the writ of execution he issued on Oct. 27, 2008, is now dissolved and that “all persons, entities and institutions holding property of DPL and Department of Public Works shall allow the defendants access to such property unfettered by the judgment and writ of execution.”

Lawyer Michael W. Dotts asked the court last week to dissolve the writ of execution because on Oct. 31, 2008, the entire amount due under the writ was paid to his client, Camacho, with the assistance of the U.S. Marshals Service.

Bank of Guam vice president/CNMI regional manager Marcie M. Tomokane had forwarded to the court a cashier’s check in the amount of $262,934.05 for remittance on a notice of writ of execution.

A federal jury in December 2006 found DPL—as the successor to the defunct MPLA—liable to pay $239,397 to Camacho for the taking of his land in Gualo Rai. The jurors also reached a finding that all of Camacho’s properties were taken in the early 1990s.

DPL appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. DPL’s appeal was dismissed in August 2007 for failure to file an opening brief. The case lay dormant until Camacho filed the motion for writ of execution.

DPL urged the federal court to defer to Commonwealth law and agree with it that Camacho has no means to enforce his judgment without the Legislature setting aside money for this.

Munson ruled otherwise, granting Camacho’s motion.

In issuing the writ, Munson ordered the U.S. Marshal to seize DPL funds held in bank accounts, goods, and any other property to satisfy a total of $262,714.60 in judgment, costs, and interest to a landowner.

Munson directed the U.S. Marshal to retain the unpaid balance of $262,714.60 plus per diem interest from and after Oct. 24, 2008, at a rate of $31.35 per day until the date the judgment is satisfied.

Munson ordered the U.S. Marshal to come to the court on Nov. 7, 2008, to give the money to Camacho.

Dotts said he twice contacted the Office of the Attorney General, counsel for DPL, in an attempt to open a dialogue to reach a mutually-agreeable method to pay the judgment in the case. Dotts said that acting Attorney General Gregory Baka did not respond.

Munson recently ruled that it can enforce its judgments against CNMI government agencies even if the Legislature has not appropriated money to satisfy such judgments.

“The failure of the Legislature to fulfill its constitutional mandate does not, cannot, and will not prevent the court from taking all necessary steps to ensure that its judgments are enforceable,” Munson said.

3K HOURS

From Page 1

But the number of outages since the emergency Aggreko generators were installed and turned on in September has decreased dramatically. Through Oct. 24, the island experienced only 44 hours of outages for the month of October.

“We hit a crescendo in July and August,” said Antonio Muña, executive director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Once the Aggreko generators came in there was a noticeable change, he said.

“Notice the big drop in September,” he said, noting that there were 321 hours of outages that month, less than half the previous month’s number. “Look at it from a standpoint of a 24-hour day over a 30-day period.”

Muña said there have been some recent outages, including an island-wide blackout for three hours that occurred last week, but most of the outages as of late have been caused by distribution, as opposed to power generation.

“We’re seeing more of a field problem, rather than a power generation problem,” he added. In fact, this month has seen 12 hours of outages caused by transformer issues, the most of any month since January 2007.

The weather, particularly the wind, is causing some of the problems, he said. The utility company will soon try to clear some of the overhanging tree branches that interfere with the power lines, he added.

“Unfortunately bucket trucks are down,” he said. “We’re trying to get those back up to accelerate and focus on the process.”

From January through Oct. 24, there have been 1,489 hours of prearranged outages for the year, while another 1,395 hours were due to a lack of power supply. The other reasons for outages were: transformers: 22 hours; faulty equipment: 21 hours; act of man: 55 hours; secondary: 32 hours; and others: 98 hours.

Last year, there were 1,705 hours of total outages. The breakdown is: lack of power supply; 1,075 hours; prearranged: 436 hours; transformers: 19 hours; faulty equipment: 34 hours; act of man: four hours; secondary: 129 hours; and other: seven hours.

In June 2007 there were 522 hours without power—the highest for the year—while the month of May 2007 saw no outages.

The Aggreko generators were turned on Sept. 12, adding 13 megawatts of power to the island. A few weeks later another two megawatts were added, helping meet the island demand of 41 megawatts. Since then there have been no load sheddings.

LOCAL

From Page 1

MVAO executive officer Ruth Coleman, in the Veterans Day ceremony yesterday, said her office is now negotiating with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs on the opening of a VA office and clinic on Saipan.

“It looks like it’s going to happen sooner than we thought. Instead of waiting for years, we might have a VA office and clinic here in a matter of months,” Coleman said in an interview after the ceremony.

She also urged veterans, reservists, and other servicemen to register with the MVAO immediately. “The more people register, the greater our chances are for a larger clinic and more benefits,” she said.

The Senate and House of Representatives recently adopted a resolution calling for a local VA office and clinic. The lawmakers say there are approximately 1,400 veterans, reservists, and active duty members, including 400 now serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, who could benefit from having a VA benefits office and a VA community-based outpatient clinic on island.

“Veterans residing in the CNMI deserve benefits equal to those received by veterans residing in the continental United States and other territories,” states the resolution.

The resolution also notes that the planned U.S. military buildup in both Guam and the Northern Marianas is expected to result in growing numbers of veterans and their dependents living and traveling between the islands. This, the resolution says, “further justifies the need for Veterans Affairs healthcare and other services to be directly and readily available in the CNMI.”

Currently, the CNMI’s Office of Military Liaison and Veteran Affairs serves as the sole official liaison and advocate for veterans in the CNMI. But it depends entirely on dwindling local resources, and is managed by one executive director, veteran Ruth Coleman, with no support staff.

With no VA office on island, the CNMI’s MLVA office and veterans living in the CNMI are required to coordinate all Veterans Affairs issues through Guam or Hawaii, a requirement which the House resolution says “has proven to be generally cumbersome and ineffective.” The resolution adds that many veterans in the CNMI have difficulty accessing their own VA healthcare benefits, and some must travel to Guam or Hawaii at their own expense to receive services available through Guam’s VA community-based outpatient clinic.

CNMI

From Page 2

the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, there are 20,410 nursing tests taken in Manila since the city was designated as an international NCLEX site in February 2007.

According to Camacho, all nursing graduates are required to get the certification from a nursing board in the U.S. jurisdiction before they can take the NCLEX. Currently, the CNMI nursing board charges $110 for each certification. The fee differs from state to state.

But the Commonwealth is losing out on this revenue-generating opportunity because the nursing board lacks the manpower to do process applications. The nursing board has only one full-time employee.

“We need manpower to do the work that needs to be done,” Camacho said. She said the board needs funding for at least two administrative assistants and one clerk to ensure efficient processing of applications.

Sen. Paul A. Manglona has expressed support for the nursing board’s funding request. He pledged to bring it up as lawmakers draft the budget for fiscal year 2009.

Villagomez says indictment is defective

'Allegations in the conspiracy charge are time-barred'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez has filed another motion, insisting that the indictment filed against him is defective as the allegations in the conspiracy charge are time-barred.

Villagomez, through counsel David J. Lujan, in a motion to dismiss said the applicable statute of limitations of five years for a conspiracy bars any and all allegations and or counts that rely on the overt acts alleged by the U.S. government.

"The indictment does not contain a single allegation of any overt act or wrongdoing of defendant or any co-conspirator, between Jan. 4, 2000 and Aug. 7, 2007," Lujan said.

The Guam lawyer said that in that period, which is a span of seven years and eight months, there was absolutely no activity whatsoever.

The U.S. government, Lujan said, has also not alleged that any overt act was committed to conceal the initial alleged "criminal" transaction that occurred between 1998 to 2000.

The indictment charged Villagomez, former Commerce Secretary James Santos, his wife Joaquina Santos, and former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Anthony Guerrero, with wire fraud, conspiracy, and theft involving federal funds.

The four allegedly conspired to bilk the CNMI government out of thousands of dollars through business deals involving chemical purchases for CUC.

Except for Guerrero, all defendants have pleaded not guilty.

According to the indictment, Villagomez, who was then CUC director, conspired with James Santos in 1998 to arrange several large purchases of Rydlyme, a de-scaling agent, through a company he owned—sales that came with a 400-percent markup and violated conflict of interest laws.

Most of the 8,000 gallons of Rydlyme sold under the deal was never needed and never used. James Santos' ISLA Sales Micronesia profited $280,000 through the plan from 1998 to 2000, the indictment said.

Villagomez sought to revive the Rydlyme sales scheme in 2007 as lieutenant governor and this time under a sole-source emergency contract with Joaquina Santos' company, Blue Pacific, filling the order, the indictment said. The 2007 contract earned Blue Pacific $120,000, it added.

But in Villagomez's motion to dismiss filed on Monday, Lujan said the indictment requires a dismissal of count one in part, as it relates to the transaction of 1998-2000 since it is already beyond the statute of limitations.

It further requires, Lujan said, that any other count cannot rely on any acts or events that occurred in the period from 1998 to 2000.

"It is well settled that the statute of limitations must be satisfied as to each object of a conspiracy when the government charges a multi-object conspiracy as it has done here," said the lawyer, citing preceding court rulings.

In this case, Lujan said, the U.S. government failed to allege a requisite overt act before the statute of limitations ran out on or around Jan. 4, 2005.

Lujan said all charges related to the alleged 1998 to 2000 transaction are therefore time-barred.

To survive a statute of limitations challenge, he said the indictment must allege that a co-conspirator committed at least one overt act in furtherance of the conspiracy within the limitations period.

He said the last overt act alleged for the 1998-2000 transaction is Jan. 4, 2000, and the next act alleged is Aug. 7, 2007, relating to a different transaction.

Lujan said the U.S. government has not alleged that Villagomez and his alleged co-conspirators engaged in any type of concealment of the claimed conspiracy.

"Regardless, the 1998-2000 transaction as pled by the government, was complete as of Jan. 4, 2000," he said.

Those events, Lujan said, all occurred more than five years before the government filed the indictment.

"Those allegations are time-barred as a matter of law," he stressed.

Villagomez also filed a separate motion to dismiss the indictment on grounds that the U.S. government's conduct in bringing the charges against him was "outrageous." He said the charges against him were fabricated.

BIRTHDAY BOY CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Mathew Robert Ong, who is celebrating his 7th birthday today, Nov. 12, 2008. "We hope you enjoy your special day and we pray that you'll have many more birthdays in the years to come." Greetings come from your loving mom and dad.

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— Retinal Physician Magazine, April 2008

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Teacher aide-soldier honored before deploying

Hopwood Jr. High School students and HJHS principal Christina Masga honor teacher aide Leslie Sablan with a plague last week. Sablan, a Troops-to-Teachers participant, is being deployed to Afghanistan at the end of the month.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Fifteen Hopwood Jr. High School students surprised their teacher aide last week with a plaque and cake as she prepares to be deployed to Afghanistan.

Leslie Sablan will leave behind her class when she leaves at the end of the month.

"It's a scary thing, but it's one my challenges," said Sablan, a wife and mother of two boys, ages 4 and 8.

Sablan, a member of the Troops-to-Teachers program, began working with the 7th and 8th grade at-risk students this year.

Roxanne Jack Suda, one of the 8th grade students, said Sablan would be missed.

"I feel sad because she's the first teacher that taught me things I don't like, like math. She taught me in a good way. All of her activities were fun," Suda said.

Students thought of Sablan as one of them, Suda added.

"[Sablan] feels like a friend," she said. "I hope she comes back early. She's the best teacher I've ever had."

Sablan's classroom teacher, Felisa V. Brel, said Sablan's absence would be a loss to the class.

"She's very comfortable to work with these kids," Brel said. "It was like having another me. She will be greatly missed by the students and me."

Sablan, who is one of three Troops-to-Teachers at Hopwood, said her time as a teacher aide to the 15 students has been rewarding.

"It's wonderful," she said. "A lot of students and general population put them down, call them bad apples, but once you get their inner beauty out…" she said smiling.

As a teacher aide, Sablan said she had several opportunities to teach the class, which helped her with her own education classes at Northern Marianas College.

Sablan is a reserve member of the 368th Military Police Battalion based in Guam. Her tour of duty will end January 2010.

Hollywood Theaters back to daily operation, temporarily

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The islands' only movie theater complex will once again be showing movies seven days a week.

Hollywood Theaters is adding the extra days through the end of the holiday season.

In September, the movie theater scaled back its operation, shutting its doors on Wednesdays and Thursdays, due to a downturn in business and high electricity costs.

In April, the movie theater closed with its parent company, Wallace Theatre Corp., citing poor economic conditions in the CNMI and rising operational costs. It later reopened one month later after the company reviewed financial projections and weighed the major outpouring of public support the theater saw when it closed.

During the monthlong period the theater remained closed, video stores reported a major upswing in business and a company owned by a Los Angeles talk show host expressed interest in taking it over.

The theater, next to the Price Costco, opened in 1999.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

San Vicente School
Community Based Management, Inc.
RFP- 001

The San Vicente School Community Based Management, Inc., Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), is soliciting competitive Proposals from qualified A/E firms for the design and construction management of the Objective Work Plan for the design, renovation and construction management for the tasks listed below. Through this Request for Proposals the governing board of the San Vicente School Community Based Management Inc., will select one A/E firm for performing the tasks listed below. The selected team (firm) must present have the capability to design the main elements of the Plan and follow through with the total construction management of the project. The selected firm must demonstrate the capability to design the main elements of the Plan, presents estimated costs, and follow through with the total construction management of the project. The Proposal shall include the following tasks:

A. Provide site inspection and designs for renovating the existing tilapia tanks to an operational condition. One tank shall be converted into a shrimp growing tank. The work will include the design and oversight for the installation of adding six (6) additional shrimp tanks for staging the growth of the shrimp and tilapia until they are ready for the grow-out tanks.
B. The existing security fence shall be inspected and renovated as necessary with the addition of additional security features and security monitoring.
C. Oversee the drilling of an onsite deepwell for the brackish water source to be used for the shrimp and tilapia farming.
D. Inspect and renovate as necessary the existing solar panels and add additional panels as necessary to meet the on site power requirements for the new system. Prepare the plans and specifications for bidding this portion of the project.
E. Inspect, design modifications and oversee renovations as necessary to provide for a wastewater filtering system. This task also includes preparing the necessary design drawings and specifications for bidding the upgrade for the wastewater system.
F. Inspect, and prepare plans to renovate a space in the existing library at the San Vicente School for an office space for this project. The A/E firm shall assist in obtaining the necessary permits from the CNMI oversight agencies.
G. Selection of the most qualified, responsible and responsive firm shall be based on the following critical criteria.

1.	Qualifications and resumes for the personnel to be assigned to the project	**50%**
2.	Cost to provide the required services	**25%**
3.	Prior experience with this type of project and in-house ability to prepare the design	**15%**
4.	The team's present work load and availability, including references with similar projects	**10%**

The Proposer must demonstrate in their Proposal successful experience on similar A/E construction management work within the CNMI.

No Pre-Proposal Conference or site inspection will be held for this project. All questions related to the proposed project must submitted in writing to the Project Manager, Mr. Valrick Welch, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, 3:00 pm November 14, 2008 by sending written inquiries to facsimile number 670-664-3985. Questions and responses will be provided to each respondent via fax.

Based on the evaluation of the critical elements A. through G. presented above, the Evaluation Team will notify the top three (3) firms and request a final competitive cost from the top team. Discussions will include in-depth evaluation of the team's technical expertise, availability to perform the work in a timely manner, available personnel, in-house capability, performance on similar contracts, including the timeliness of the firm in meeting contract deadlines, and the ability to prepare the design on AutoCAD latest version with a copy of the complete design diskettes for the school archives. In the event a mutually beneficial contract arrangement cannot be met within 30 days the Project Manager will proceed to negotiate with the firm having the second highest competitive ranking, and so on. Five (5) copies plus one original of the sealed Proposals must be submitted to the:

Valrick A. Welch, Project Manager
San Vicente School Community Based Management, Inc.
P.O. Box 501370
Saipan, MP 96950

no later than 3:00 PM, local CNMI time, on Friday, November 28, 2008. The San Vicente School reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so shall be in the best interests of the CNMI. All Proposals shall become the exclusive property of the San Vicente School Community Based Mangement Inc.

/s/ Agnes McPheteres
San Vicente School Community Based Management Chairwoman

An Open Letter to the Business Community

Your assistance is requested to make the vision of training residents to become skilled tradesmen a reality. Please join the Founders Guild and make a difference.

Many of our people are not skilled tradesmen. As a result many good paying jobs are not available to them. Also as our non-resident workers are gradually phased out, there will no one to replace them in the trades. Where will the carpenters, plumbers, electricians, painters, masons, and all the other necessary trades come from? Who will do this vital work in the construction industry or in our own homes as repairs become necessary? Where will you get your employees?

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute, incorporated in April 2008, is a private non-profit, non-governmental institute to train our local people to become skilled trained tradesmen under professional instructors. We feel that as citizens, we must help to improve not only the economy, but also uplift the skills of our fellow citizens.

While the students are required to pay tuition to attend the school, it is insufficient to sustain the institute during its formative stages. We need your financial assistance.

Please become a member of the Founders Guild. Become one of the leaders in the community who believes in the vision to make possible the employment of local men and women to earn decent wages performing necessary skilled trades. Its time has come. Join with us now.

Please visit our facilities and meet some of the students and instructors. See for yourself what we are doing. The students, instructors, and facilities are ready. Your contribution will make all this happen. Perhaps you may want to sponsor some students. Please call Tony Pellegrino at 287-8310, George Sablan at 285-7410 or Rose Igitol at 235-6684.

NORTHERN MARIANAS TRADES INSTITUTE
P.O. BOX 501808
SAIPAN, MP 96950

'Interviews in CUC scam case lawful'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has found lawful the interviews conducted by Commonwealth Utilities Corp. officials and Attorney General Investigative Unit investigators on a former CUC customer service representative who was among several then employees accused of engaging in a power disconnection scam.

Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona made the finding in denying Rita I. Tarope's motion to suppress her statements obtained by CUC officials during the interviews.

Manglona also denied Tarope's motion to suppress her statements to investigators as involuntary or taken in violation of her Miranda rights.

"Based upon the evidence presented, and the foregoing authority, the court determines that the defendant's statements at her interview on April 5, 2007, were not elicited by a violation of [her] constitutional privilege against self-incrimination or her right to due process of law," the judge said in her written order issued Monday.

Manglona said the Commonwealth did not do anything to overborne Tarope's will, and the court finds from the totality of the circumstances that defendant's statements to investigators given on April 23 and 24, 2007, were voluntary.

"There is no fundamental unfairness involved in permitting criminal investigators to ask the same questions posed in a prior civil investigation; however, the right to assert the privilege is retained even if the witness is uncertain of its scope," the judge said.

Tarope was among several defendants charged with theft of services, conspiracy to commit theft of services, and misconduct in public office. The government later dismissed the misconduct in public office charge.

Tarope and four other co-defendants were allegedly engaged in scam by purposely skipping the names of family members and friends from a power disconnection list. Tarope allegedly got a total of $6,144.29 from 11 accounts.

In March 2007, a CUC official met with two Office of Public Auditor investigators and an AGIU investigator to report allegations of misconduct by several CUC employees, including Tarope.

Following that meeting, AGIU and the Department of Public Safety launched a joint investigation into the matter.

On March 29, 2007, then CUC executive director Anthony C. Guerrero hand-delivered a notice to Tarope, informing her that she was suspended from her job without pay and that the "the proposed termination will not be finalized until you have had the opportunity to respond to the statements made in this letter of proposed adverse action."

On April 5, 2007, the scheduled interview was held at the CUC office in Dandan. In attendance were Tarope, two CUC officials, and CUC legal counsel Edward Manibusan.

Tarope was not advised that she and other employees were already the focus of a separate criminal investigation.

On April 23 and 24, 2007, a detective and an AGIU investigator questioned the defendant at the CUC office, but was told she was not under arrest. Tarope was also advised of her constitutional rights. The defendant made admissions in the course of these interviews.

In May 2007, Tarope tendered her resignation.

The defendant argued that the court should suppress any and all of her statements to CUC officials at the April 5 interview, and all evidence derived from it.

She asserted that her statements were elicited by the government under the threat that she would be terminated if she failed to answer the questions

Manglona

put to her, thus rendering her answers officially compelled and therefore inadmissible against her in a criminal proceeding.

Manglona disagreed. The judge said the evidence presented establishes that Tarope's statements to CUC officers were not compelled.

Tarope separately moved to suppress the same statements to AGIU investigators on the grounds that they were involuntary and obtained through custodial interrogation without a valid waiver of her constitutional rights as required by Miranda warnings.

Manglona said because Tarope was not subjected to custodial interrogation, Miranda warnings are not required and the government does not have the particular burden of proving that defendant knowingly and voluntarily waived her constitutional rights.

"The evidence actually presented…strongly supports the finding that defendant voluntarily answered the questions put to her by investigators during the April 23-24 sessions," Manglona said.

The judge said the answers Tarope provided at her CUC interview on March 5, were not the product of coercion and no basis has been presented for finding that the statements were involuntary.

Manglona said that, during her April 23-24 interview with criminal investigators, Tarope may well have perceived it useless to assert her privilege against self-incrimination in response to questions regarding the very same incidents addressed at her prior administrative interview, during which she had already made disclosures.

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

NOTISIA POT PRINIPONEN ATKILONTANO PUBLIKO

Segun gi lai 15-2, I Depattamenton Tano, segun i LaiPubliko 15-2, ha anununsia planon atkilon tano publiko giya Tinian, Commonwealth i Sankattan siha na Islas. Todo man-interesao libre munahalom opinion `sino infotmasion pot i mapropopone na planonuson tano publiko. Maprebeniye lokue isigiente siha na infotmasion para benefision publiko tat komo:

1. I tineteka na tano publiko inembrarasa 300 hegtarias. Trabiha ti mamimide este na lugat lao i uminteres umadelanta este na tano publiko pot para u hatsaye casino hotel yan primera na golf course giya Piña, Tinian.. Kopian lugat este na sitiu gaige gi Depattamenton Tano ni libre maina nu i publiku.

2. I para u inatkilai era i Neo Goldwings Paradise, un kotporasion guine giya Marianas. I membron direktot siha i sigiente: Hyun Myung In, presidente/tresurario yan Kwidong Woo, segundo presidente yan sekretario.

3. I mapropopone na atkilon tano publiko manegosio as Señor Kwidong Woo.

4. I para u atkila i lugat para u usa gimahatsan fasilidat hotel casino, golf course yan otro siha na fasilidat.

   I tetminonestena kontrata para 25 años ya siña ma-ekstende talo 15 años.

5. Libre hao mamaisen kopianestena plano gi Depattamenton Tano ni gaige gi segundo bibienda gi Joeten Dandan, Saipan; offisinanTano Publiko giya Luta yan Tinian.

6. I Depattamenton Tano taya otro plano ha resibe gi uson este siha na propiadat publiko giya Piña, Tinian.

7. I Sekretarion Depattamenton Tano Publiko siña ha resibe todo ninahalom opinion yan materiat pot este na proposito uttimo gi Novembre 24, 2008 gi todo Offisinan Tano Publiku giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwlil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Tchúlúyól, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong aghiyghiir, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap. Me bwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal awewee kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatééló.

i. Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap ye ebwe elebwughúw toria (300 hectares), iye rebwe tilifischi ghatchúw bwelle investors rebwe ayúúw leliyel casino me golf resort iye e ghil ngáli bwuleyil Pina mewóól Tchúlúyól elapeló me ngáre eghús. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ye Tchúlúyól ngáre óubwe ghuley fischiy.

ii. Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge Neo Gold Wings Paradise Saipan Corporation d.b.a. NGP Casino and Hotel. Schóól Assamwoolul mwiisch (board of directors) mellol corporation nge Myung In Hyun me Kwidong Woo.

   Samwoolul (President/Treasurer) corporation nge Myung In Hyun. Vice President me Sekkretório nge Kwidong Woo.

iii. Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Kwidong Woo.

iv. Schóól akkilon nge ebwe ayúúw me mwóghutáágheli casino mellól hotel me golf resort me akkááw wiisal(fasilidóód).

   Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon nge reweigh me limoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limoow ráágh (15 years).

   Pomwol akkilon yeel nge ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél faluw (value of the property).

v. Emmwel bwe tilighial akkilon yeel óubwe bwughil mereel bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llol Dandan, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.

vi. Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo pomwol akkilon ye elo Piña, Tchúlúyól.

vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal schagh Nobiembre (November) 24, 2008 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta, Tchúlúyol.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

The Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent, under Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, to lease certain public lands on Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is about 300 hectares that has yet to be surveyed to which investor plans to lease for purposes of building a casino hotel and golf resort situated in the Piña Area on Tinian. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for review.

ii. The prospective lessee is Neo Goldwings Paradise, Co. Ltd. a CNMI corporation. The Board of Directors of the corporation are Hyun Myung In, president/treasurer and Kwidong Woo, vice president/secretary.

iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Kwidong Woo.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of developing and operating a casino hotel and golf resort and related facilities.

   The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

   The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property.

v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land at Piña, Tinian.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before November 24, 2008 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

USCG removes 4 tons of debris from Kure Atoll

HONOLULU—Crewmembers aboard the U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Kukui* last week removed four tons of nets and debris from Kure Atoll in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

The Coast Guard routinely performs such debris recovery trips in the Pacific as part of the service's continued commitment to marine environmental protection. Despite rough conditions—seas of eight feet and strong currents—*Kukui* crewmembers used two small boats to transport 36 loads from the atoll to the cutter over three days.

The net retrieval mission performed by *Kukui* crewmembers was in conjunction with work done by State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources and National Marine Fisheries Service officers for the past two years.

The debris had accumulated in that time.

According to Cynthia Vanderlip, manager of the State of Hawaii's Kure Atoll Wildlife Sanctuary, DLNR and NMFS officers rescued seven Hawaiian monk seals, five black-footed albatross, and a tern from entanglement over that time frame alone. The Coast Guard's removal of the nets and debris will help prevent such entanglements.

"The impact is devastating," said Vanderlip of the accumulation of nets and debris. "This is a serious problem that cannot be solved until the responsible parties are held accountable, but in the meantime, we'll continue to do what we can."

Nets and debris pose serious threats to marine life and sensitive reef systems across the Pacific.

"The partnership between the Coast Guard, DLNR, and NMFS is critical to cleaning up the ocean and reef systems, which are the backbone of our ecosystem," said Lt. Whitney Houck, the *Kukui*'s executive officer, or second in charge.

"Without the work of DLNR and NMFS in gathering nets and discarded plastics, and the Coast Guard's ability to transport these materials off the atolls and islands of Papahanaumokuakea, the outlook for many reefs and marine mammals would be bleak."

Kukui crewmembers transported DLNR personnel and Coast Guard engineers from Midway Atoll to continue an ongoing environmental assessment of Kure. The cutter's crew also serviced 19 various aids to navigation—buoys, day boards and other signs—to help mariners in navigation.

The *Kukui* is a 225-foot juniper class buoy tender homeported in Honolulu.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

November 12, 1999

Scrap 80MW power project

Former Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio yesterday called for the scrapping of the controversial Saipan power project, saying the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. should not award the contract as the island does not need additional power generation. "CUC should stop it. It should no longer continue," he said in an interview.

EPA to conduct independent test on PCB

Due to growing concerns on the impact of polychlorinated biphenyls on the people's health and environment, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said it will conduct its own assessment of Tanapag village to determine if the area is free from the contamination of the cancer-causing chemical. "We hope to make it as expansive as possible and get it done as soon as we can although it could still take a year to process the results," said Norman Lovelace, manager for Pacific Insular Area Program, U.S. EPA.

November 12, 2001

Agencies probe biohazard scare

Law enforcement agencies are investigating Thursday's biohazard scare, in a bid to bring to justice those responsible for the threatening acts against members of the community. The US Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Public Safety and the US Postal Service Inspection Service have launched their joint investigations, underscoring on the serious nature of the criminal offense called "threatening mailing."

Homestead project feared to cause water problems

The proposed Tanapag Heights Homestead may provide new homes to people in the CNMI but it may also create a problem—the contamination of groundwater due to the lack of a sewer system. This was pointed out by the Tanapag Action Group, which is currently lobbying at the Legislature to stop the homestead project in Tanapag until a sewer system is put in place at the site.

November 12, 2002

GHLI gets $600K more

The CNMI government has infused an additional $600,000 to the Retirement Fund's Group Health and Life Insurance Program in efforts to prevent another major payment problem with its third party administrator, Hawaii Pacific Medical Referral. Public Health Secretary James U. Hofschneider said in an interview yesterday that the government decided to put in the additional amount on top of the regular monthly remittance to the GHLI amounting to $500,000.

Hawaii hospitals welcome back NMI patients

Beginning last week, Hawaii-based medical providers have resumed accepting referral patients from the Commonwealth, including those covered under the Group Health and Life Insurance Program. Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente gave this assurance, in the wake of the payment made last week by Group Health to its third-party administrator, the Hawaii Medical Referral Program.

November 12, 2003

Labor OKs late filing fees

The Department of Labor has adopted an emergency regulation that provides for the charging of late submission of work permit applications. The emergency policy took effect last Friday.

'CNMI is Japanese travelers' first choice'

Nearly all (95%) of Japanese visitors in July chose the CNMI as their first choice of destination. Majority of the Japanese tourists visiting the CNMI are high-income earners, with most of them indicating that the islands were their first choice for destination. Saipan, Tinian and Rota also ranked first as the most popular destination of choice among Japanese visitors who had also gone to Hawaii, Guam, Australia and Okinawa, Japan.

November 12, 2004

Higher fuel surcharge in '05

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. admitted on Wednesday that the proposed 3.5-cent fuel surcharge, if adopted in December, could be at least 5.5 cents per kilowatt-hour by January 2005. During Wednesday night's sparsely attended public hearing at the Multi-Purpose Center, acting CUC comptroller Ed Williams said all electric customers will be charged an additional 3.5 cents per kwh in December.

AT THE LEGISLATURE

2nd Annual Legislative Breakfast today

The Commonwealth Diabetes Coalition, Department of Public Health, Public School System, Ayuda Network, Inc. and Marianas Health Services will provide presentations and the latest information to the Legislature on diabetes and homecare in the CNMI. The breakfast meeting will be held today, Nov. 12, 2008, from 7:30am to 10:30am at Fiesta Resort and SPA Saipan.

SNILD session today

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation will have a session today, Nov. 12, 2008, starting at 1:30pm in the House chamber. Among the bills scheduled for introduction are:

■ House Local Bill 16-19: Repealing and reenacting the Saipan Zoning Law (Rep. Ramon Tebuteb +1)

■ HLB 16-20: Re-appropriating $15,000 from Saipan Local Law 15-12, Section 2(c) to fund the acquisition and land compensation of Lot R/W, situated on part of Tun Antonio Apa Road in Fina Sisu (Rep. Oscar Babauta)

■ HLB 16-22: Authorizing SHEFA financial assistance for students who have not obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent who are enrolled in a trade institution such as the Northern Marianas Trades Institute (Rep. Justo Quitugua)

The following bills are also scheduled for action today:

■ HLB 16-9: Re-appropriating $500,000 from SHEFA for the payment of salaries for certain government employees who were to be furloughed as of April 2008 (Rep. Dave Apatang)

■ HLB 16-11: $75K appropriations for a guardrail on Flame Tree Road ($50,000); replacement of the Kagman II baseball field backstop ($15,000), and electrical and plumbing upgrade, equipment and supplies for Koblerville Youth Center ($15,000) (Rep. Joseph Reyes)

■ HLB 16-14: $242,056 appropriations re various Precinct 1 road paving projects (from Tun Herman Pan Road Intersection to Gangochi Road to As Lito Road) (Rep. Dave Apatang)

■ HLB 16-15: Re-appropriating $344,035 from Saipan Local Law 15-12 Section 2(d)(1) to Alu Drive for sewer and road improvements on Alu Drive in San Antonio (Rep. Dave Apatang)

House session tomorrow

The CNMI House of Representatives will have a session tomorrow, Nov. 13, 2008, starting at 9:30am in the House chamber.

Public lands hearing tomorrow

The Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development, and Programs will hold a public lands hearing tomorrow, Nov. 13, 2008, starting at 10am in the Senate chamber, regarding homestead, land compensation, and commercial land lease matters.

Source: Office of Rep. Tina Sablan

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Info meeting for IRs of US citizens

There will be an informational meeting for Immediate Relatives (IRs) of U.S. citizen spouses (living or deceased), parents and qualified children on Nov. 16, 2008, Sunday, at 2pm, at the AMP Theater inside the American Memorial Park Museum.

The meeting is being organized by the United Workers Movement, NMI and Mailman & Kara, LLC.

For details, call or text Irene Tantiado at 285 7717, Rabby Syed at 285 3306 or send an email to irenebdi@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

Meeting for IRs of FAS citizens

The Division of Immigration has recently released a notice of proposed amendments to the CNMI immigration rules and regulations. The most important amendment is the proposal to allow for two-year permits in selected categories such as immediate relatives of U.S. citizens and permanent residents, foreign students and foreign investors. However, this two-year permitting is not available for immediate relatives of the FAS citizens. These amendments are set to take effect in January 2009.

FAS citizens with alien spouses should submit a request to the Division of Immigration to include their immediate relatives.

In view of this, the United Workers Movement, NMI is holding a meeting for all the FAS citizens with alien spouses this Nov. 16, 2008 at 5pm. Venue will be announced later.

For more details, interested parties may contact Irene Tantiado at 285 7717 or Rabby Syed at 285 3306. ***(PR)***

Vendors for Carolinian Utt

There will be a meeting on Nov. 14, 2008 at 3pm for those interested tourist vendors who want to assist Carolinian Affairs Office with their weekly entertainment at the Carolinian Utt. The scope of work will be discussed. ***(PR)***

Holiday Artists Sale reservations

Spaces are beginning to fill up for the 4th Annual Holiday Artists Sale, which will be held at the Multi-purpose Center on Nov. 29-30. Those who would like to participate may reserve space by contacting Katharyn Tuten-Puckett (tutenpuckett@yahoo.com) or Jeanne Rayphand (jeanneesq@yahoo.com). Reservation fee is $25 for one space; $15 for each additional space. ***(PR)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB09-CGC-020

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: DECEMBER 10, 2008 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

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PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
Secretary of Health

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

DCCA CHILD CARE PROGRAM OPENS FOR NEW APPLICANTS
(Tinian and Rota Only)

To: All parents and/or Legal Guardians

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs will be accepting new applications for Child Care and Development Fund (Child Care Program) for the islands of Tinian and Rota only starting from Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2008 to Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2008 between 8:00am to 4:00pm. Applications may be picked up at:

Rota DCCA Main Office with contact no: 532-0354
Tinian Gym with contact no: 433-9330

SHIPPING SCHEDULE

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Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SENOKO	012E	10/25 Sat	10/23 Thu	10/23 Thu	10/21 Tue	10/18 Sat	10/31 Fri	10/27 Mon	10/26 Sun	10/19 Sun	10/19 Sun	10/27 Mon	10/31 Fri	11/1 Sat	11/4 Tue
MELL SINGAPORE	017E	11/1 Sat	10/30 Thu	10/30 Thu	10/28 Tue	10/25 Sat	11/7 Fri	11/3 Mon	11/2 Sun	10/26 Sun	10/26 Sun	11/3 Mon	11/7 Fri	11/8 Sat	11/11 Tue
STADT HAMBURG	025E	11/8 Sat	11/6 Thu	11/6 Thu	11/4 Tue	11/1 Sat	11/14 Fri	11/10 Mon	11/9 Sun	11/2 Sun	11/2 Sun	11/10 Mon	11/14 Fri	11/15 Sat	11/18 Tue
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MELL SINGAPORE	018E	11/22 Sat	11/20 Thu	11/20 Thu	11/18 Tue	11/15 Sat	11/28 Fri	11/24 Mon	11/23 Sun	11/16 Sun	11/16 Sun	11/24 Mon	11/28 Fri	11/29 Sat	12/2 Tue
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Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETD Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA GenSan	ETA Davao	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
MELL SENOKO	012E	11/8 Sat	11/9 Sun	11/9 Sun	11/11 Tue	11/13 Thu	11/14 Fri	11/15 Sat	11/18 Tue	11/21 Fri	11/22 Sat	11/27 Thu	12/16 Tue	12/14 Sun	11/26 Wed
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MELL SENOKO	013E	11/29 Sat	11/30 Sun	11/30 Sun	SKIP	12/4 Thu	12/5 Fri	12/6 Sat	12/9 Tue	12/12 Fri	12/13 Sat	12/18 Thu	1/6 Tue	1/4 Sun	12/17 Wed
MELL SINGAPORE	018E	12/6 Sat	12/7 Sun	12/7 Sun	12/9 Tue	12/11 Thu	12/12 Fri	12/13 Sat	12/16 Tue	12/19 Fri	12/20 Sat	12/25 Thu	1/13 Tue	1/11 Sun	12/24 Wed
STADT HAMBURG	026E	12/13 Sat	12/14 Sun	12/14 Sun	SKIP	12/18 Thu	12/19 Fri	12/20 Sat	12/23 Tue	12/26 Fri	12/27 Sat	1/1 Thu	1/20 Tue	1/18 Sun	12/31 Wed

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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THE SAIPANPRENEUR PROJECT

Creating economic success for the CNMI

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com.

Snapshots from an alternate future

The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and movebeyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!

I would be remiss if I didn't incorporate some element of recent events in my article. As the news and reality of the now President-elect Barack Obama's victory in the U.S. elections circulates worldwide, and as both the symbolic and substantive ramifications start to take hold, change brews.

Many people's faltering faith in American democracy is being restored; others' assumptions about and reliance on the status quo have been challenged; hope of the possibility of meaningful change has been sparked.

What new ways of perceiving, seeing, thinking and acting might this new era of hoped-for change bring about? What new goals can we set for our families, neighborhoods, businesses, nations and the earth society as a whole? Here are a few snapshots through global, national and local lenses.

Steady-state economics

We've seen and experienced what a culture of greed has done to capitalism. There's nothing inherently evil about capitalism based on fair exchange, and as mentioned in an earlier article, the best way to serve your customers is to provide "exchange in abundance," where you give *more* than what is expected.

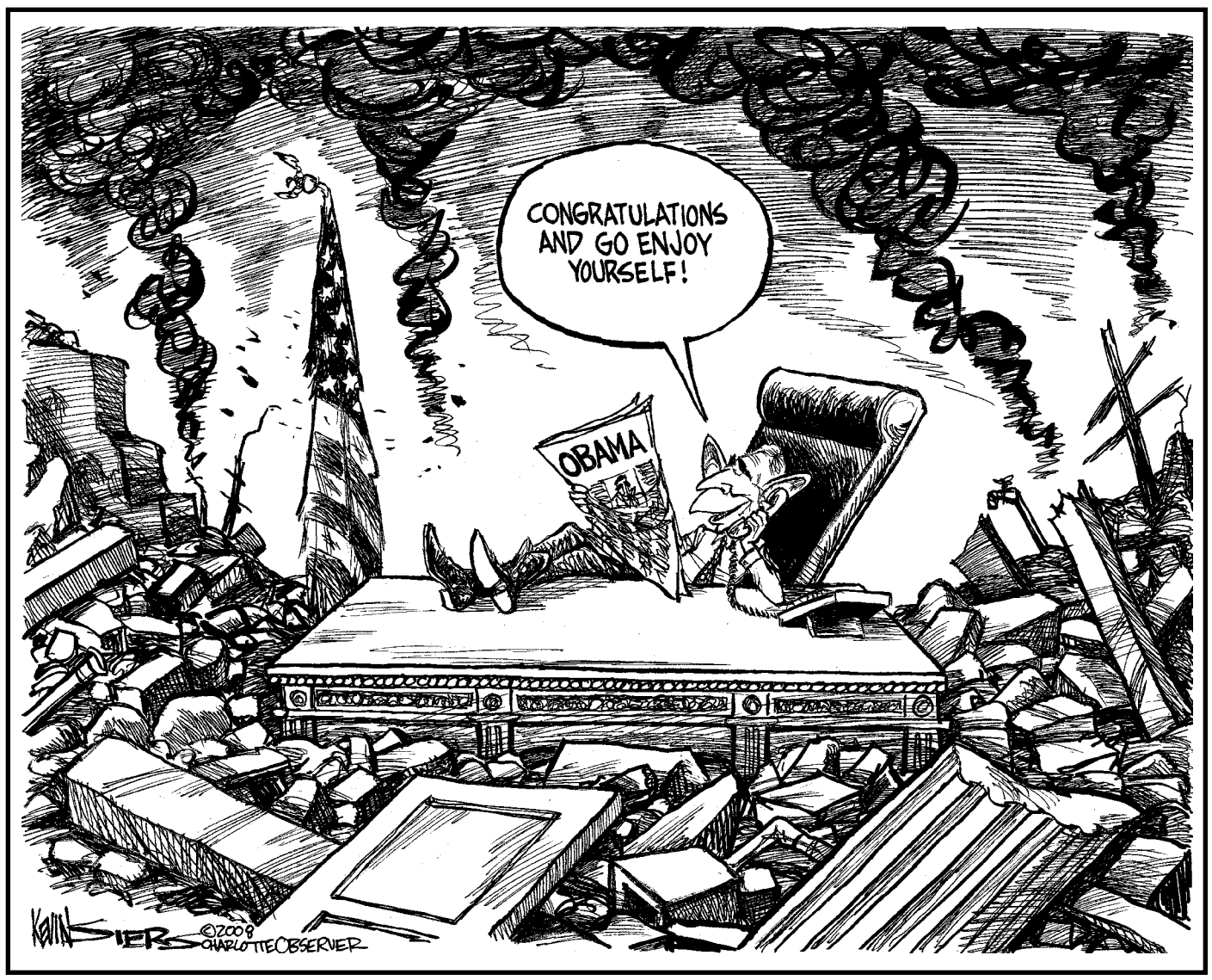
Bank failures, layoffs, economic implosions and recessions are partly the result of a paradigm and a mentality that places "profit now and forever" above all else, regardless of the impact on Earth, natural resources, human rights and dignity, or the future requirements of the population. This, coupled with rampant consumerism and a fiat currency (currency that is created out of nothing and without any work; not based on a standard, like gold or silver), results in overconsumption, exploitation, and its own eventual demise.

Infinite growth based on finite resources is a futile and damaging pursuit. (*You cannot build a house of numberless floors, when your bricks are numbered. At some point the bricks run out.)*

A new paradigm gaining more traction these days is the "steady state" economic model. To paraphrase a guest on a recent talk show, "our goal as a planetary society should be economic *development*, not economic 'growth.' It should be about achieving a better quality of life, not simply more stuff."

"The three concerns of advocates of a steady-state economy are sustainability, equity, and efficiency. …Neither economic growth nor economic recession are sustainable; therefore, the steady state economy remains the only sustainable prospect and the appropriate policy goal for the sake of sustainability."

Visit www.steadystate.org for more information.



The president's got my email address!

There is no doubt that this remarkable presidential campaign has changed the game in many respects. It was said of the campaign that Hillary and McCain were running 2004-style campaigns, while Obama ran a 2008-style campaign.

According to a *BusinessWeek* article ("How Better Marketing Elected Barack Obama"), a writer offered eight reasons why, which included:

"Third, his fundraising prowess was aided by his appreciation and use of all communications media, notably the Internet, to engage voters. Obama picked up where Howard Dean left off. He leveraged his website, the blogosphere, and even user-generated content (remember Obama Girl) and video games to engage not just donors and volunteers but all citizens. From the imaginative campaign logo to the 30-minute infomercial, Obama's communications were professional without being slick, attention-getting without being in-your-face."

As a result of this better marketing, *"Almost half of Obama's unprecedented $639 million in funds raised from individuals came from small donors giving $300 or less."* Just so we're clear, folks, $639 million is more than halfway to 1,000 million dollars. That's one billion dollars!

Yes, Barack raised the bar. But beyond the economics, you might ask yourself: What happens when a president can mobilize millions of citizens with the click of a mouse? What happens when he or she can communicate thoughts and ideas directly to the people without the filter of talk show pundits and their opinions, or newspaper editors and their agendas, free of editing distortions, doctored sound bytes, and out-of-context quotes? What happens when the leader of the free world has got your e-mail address? What kind of democracy can we have then? Hmmm?

And, what lessons can the hopeful entrepreneur learn from all this? One can only imagine what ideas our future strategists (both presidential and entrepreneurial) will devise to build their brands. To summarize the *BusinessWeek* analysis of the keys to Obama's marketing success:

- First, Obama's personal charisma;
- Second, he converted this empathy into tangible support;
- Third, used all media (most notably, the Internet) to communicate;
- Fourth, reached out to ALL citizens;
- Fifth, advertised upbeat themes of hope and "change you can believe in";
- Sixth, anticipated and outsmarted the competition;
- Seventh, fought the ground war as brilliantly as the air war;
- Finally, chose an excellent marketing and campaign team, and managed them well.

[*For full details, see "How Better Marketing Elected Barack Obama" www.businessweek.com, and visit www.Change.gov to be part of the ongoing revolution.]*

Garment factory reuse

A just-published book titled *Big Box Reuse* by Julia Christensen details some of the creative conversions of abandoned "big box" buildings formerly used by K-Mart, WalMart and similar super-stores that have ceased operations in particular towns across the nation.

"In Austin, Minn., Christensen went to a big box that had been renovated into a museum devoted to Spam, the canned meat. In Fayetteville, N.C., she went to a flea market that had once been a KMart. And in Round Rock, Texas, a group of young entrepreneurs turned an abandoned Wal-Mart into an indoor racecar track. Christensen cites the racecar track for its imaginative use of such a large space — but they couldn't keep up with the overhead costs and had to close down."

I was intrigued by the story and considered the applications of this strategy on a local level. Perhaps the economy wouldn't support it right at this moment, but what sorts of creative re-uses might we envision for the abandoned garment factories here on Saipan? Have any ideas? OK, I'll go first. I may have mentioned this one before, but I think it would be cool (without trivializing the experiences of the women and men who toiled countless hours there, and in similar factories the world over) to have a dance club/entertainment facility named "*The Garment Factory"* or better yet, "*The Sweat Shop*" decorated with as many of the actual fixtures from real factories. People could dance the night away, and voluntarily sweat to their heart's content in a building of historical significance, and which represents a real part of Saipan's past. What do you think?

[Search for "big box" at www.npr.org]

■■■

Note: *Predictions for Fun and Profit Update:*

And, while we're on the topic of seeing the future, as you may recall, I made four predictions a few weeks ago. *[See "What Happens Next?" published Wednesday, October 15, 2008]*

Prediction #1 has come true: Barack Obama was elected president.

Prediction #2 (do you recall?) will be tested soon! If all goes well, I'll have launched my new career as a fortune-teller. Stay tuned. J

Note: The African American Cultural Preservation Committee is calling for entries for the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Essay and Elocution Contest. The topic this year is "What Would Martin Say?" All students in the CNMI are invited. See the www.blacksonsaipan.com website for details. Fliers are being distributed to the schools this week.

Note*: For more tips on overcoming your fears, acting on your ideas, changing the game, and creating a passion-centered lifestyle,*

See SNAPSHOTS on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letters to the Editor

More CUC gobbledegook

I'm not sure if the news reporting of statements issued by CUC has been in error, or if CUC is just issuing a lot a financial data at random and hoping that no one will try to add up the numbers. But one thing is for sure, the data issued is no better now than it ever has been.

Late last week, it was reported that CUC had submitted its FY 2009 budget report to the Legislature. That report indicated projected collections of $138.8 million with $130.95 million from power and $7.85 million from water and sewer. The expenses were listed as $103.2 million for fuel, $24.7 million for operations and administrative, $10.9 million for payroll and $11.3 million for purchased power.

First, look at that balance: the listed expenses total $150.1 million and that is $11.3 million *more* than the expected collections. Why does CUC start off in the hole? That just doesn't make sense already. But it gets worse: Take a look at the amount budgeted for "purchased power." CUC allots $4.6 million for Aggreko (Aggreko will operate for the entire FY '09), but the contract CUC signed with Aggreko calls for a mandatory guaranteed base cost of $504,000 per month lease and $84,000 per week power cost (1.68 GW at 5 cents per kWh, guaranteed minimum) and that adds up to $10,415,600 for the year for Aggreko alone. What's worse, that cost is for 10 MW only and CUC now insists it's actually getting 15 MW. CUC allots only $1.2 million for purchased power from Telesource. Last time I looked, power production on Tinian called for a power purchase of about three times the allotted amount plus the monthly contract buy-down cost of nearly $300,000 per month for another $3.6 million; that's $6.6 million for Tinian.

If you add up the purchased power from third parties and the lease or rent for their systems, you get a total of roughly $30.4 million (includes $6.7 million for power plant IV on Saipan). Even if you remove the lease or rent (some $9.6 million), that still leaves $20.8 million or so for "purchased power"—and that lease or rent is not listed in any other CUC budget category as reported. Nothing here adds up or balances, with far more in expenses, some not even accurately stated, than is expected in receipts. Now we can add up total expenses of nearly $170 million—some $32 million *greater* than anticipated revenue, *if* you believe CUC can really expect to increase its revenue by some 66 percent over FY '08! That's not a "budget"; that's just a mess.

Now for some even more disturbing reporting: As of Monday, CUC issued the statement that it had *billed* customers for about $110.44 million in FY '08, but *collected* only $91.466 million. That means CUC failed to collect about $18.97 million from customers, some 17.2 percent of its billing! If true, that's absolutely ridiculous!

CUC also stated that it had produced some 274 million kWh for FY '08. At an average of 22.8 million kWh per month, CUC would have to produce power at a steady 32 MW. At that rate, they "collected" only 33.38 cents per kWh for the year—well below the actual cost of production. But *if* CUC had collected for the amount billed, the kWh rate would have resulted in collections at 40.31 cents per kWh—very close to the actual cost of production. That's nearly a 7-cent difference per kWh. Where did that 7 cents (and the nearly $19 million) go? Will we ever know?

And here's yet another: CUC says it collected $7.4 million in October for a production of 15 million kWh. Just for information, 15 million kWh translates to a steady production of about 21 megawatts of power. Anyway, CUC "collected" at a rate of 49.33 cents per kWh, some 16 cents per kWh *more* than the average for the entire rest of the same year (remember, October collections were for September production and usage)!

By the way, CUC says it collected $91.466 million in FY '08 but predicts a collection of $138.8 million for FY '09. That's $47.33 million more, or an increase of 66 percent. Do we really believe CUC can increase its revenue by 66 percent in the coming year, which actually started over a month ago? If October is an indication, that projects revenue of only about $90 million, certainly not the $130 million expected (from power) unless CUC can increase customer usage from 15 million kWh per month to 22 million kWh per month—starting *last* month!

With Aggreko, CUC has a 41 MW capacity, but will customers increase usage by 50 percent and will CUC collect everything it bills at a maintained average rate of 49 cents per kWh (based on October)? But CUC just reduced its average rate to around 32 cents per kWh, so now CUC must increase customer usage even further to at least 34 million kWh per month to realize the projected revenue ($34M x .32 x 12 = $130M)—more than *double* the October usage rate. Question: Does CUC have the capacity, even with Aggreko, to produce 34 million kWh per month? Answer: No! CUC's maximum capacity is now at about 30 million kWh. How was all that derived? Will we ever know?

Further, CUC says it has cancelled the RFP for repairs on engines 5 & 7 because of "non-responsive" bids. Well, how's this for "responsive": Mitsubishi bid $6 million and CISCo bid $1 million—for the *same* repairs! How is that possible? Will we ever know?

Mr. Muna is supposed to be a well respected accountant, and I certainly am not, but I can add two and two and usually come up with four, assuming that is a correct answer. CUC's business is really nothing more than simple arithmetic, but the arithmetic employed in this sort of reporting defies all logic and arithmetical formulae that I know of. It would appear that some sort of futuristic quantum mechanics yet to be invented has been employed. And that is just not conducive to public trust, is it?

So let's see the *real* balance sheet. After all, CUC is supposed to answer to the public, is it not? Legislators: Are you looking into this, or just absorbing whatever is thrown at you as if it were gospel? Or will somebody tell me that I'm supposed to add two and two and get five like everybody else?

Oh, and by the way, that proposed $103 million for fuel in FY '09? It will *buy* us 81 megawatts of generation IV nuclear power with *no* additional fuel cost for the next *10 years*! That's a one-billion dollar saving!

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.
San Jose, Tinian

Thanks, Ray

Thank you Rep. Ray Yumul for introducing a resolution urging the CDA to deny Saipan LauLau Development (Kumho Asiana) more of the CNMI's money. Thanks for doing your job as an elected representative and as chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means. If Gov. Fitial wants to contend with you over the matter, the proper forum is the legislative chamber, not the newspapers.

Do not misunderstand me. Kumho Asiana is not a villain here. I know they are just trying to get the best possible deal for their investors. That is good business. They make good money here. That is why they keep investing in the CNMI. Thanks also to Kumho Asiana to taking a chance on the CNMI.

Ray, you are correct in stating that we have been basically bending over backwards for Kumho Asiana. Enough is enough. And Ray, you just keep speaking your mind and heart on behalf of the people of the CNMI.

Brad Doerr
San Roque, Saipan

SNAPSHOTS

From Page 10

visit www.passionprofit.com!

■■■

Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!

Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 12 books including Turn Your Passion Into Profit. *Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here in Saipan. To learn more about the Saipanpreneur Project and Walt's philosophy and formula visit www.saipanpreneur.com and www.passionprofit.com.*

Good Morning, America! How are you?

Mr. Kimo Mafnas Rosario of As Gonno, Koblerville's rejoinder (Nov. 11) to my letter to the editor, "My chill factor in Good Morning, America" (Nov. 10), proves his point: one knee-jerk response has a tendency to invite another knee-jerk response, ad infinitum. In the Sicilian tradition, that could get vicious! Yet, here comes one more, but with the hope that we could keep it civil!

Kimo writes: "As a PSS educator, it is Mr. Vergara's responsibility to teach this particular local student the right way of…" Current pedagogical style today is more akin to the saying, "One can take a horse to the river, but one cannot force a horse to drink." Teachers can only take students to the fount of knowledge; they cannot force their students to drink. With the formidable challenge of habits (knee-jerk responses) developed from home and culture, the 30-minute intentional Character Education period in public schools is hardly enough time to cause paradigm shifts of the issue in question (racism/racial prejudices). And we are talking "knowledge" here, which involves analysis and discernment, as opposed to just data that requires only factual verification. And hardly are we talking about wisdom, either!

Before I am further misunderstood, let me categorically disengage any notion that I am implying Kimo is a horse. I am not that bright of a donkey (though I am politically a Democrat), but I will consent to his request. By the way, Kimo is a Hawaiian equivalent to "James," which is also "Jaime" en Español (and Hawaii is my second residence of record), so in Pinoy street parlance, Kimo and I would be "tukayo" (of or from the same stem or limb). Though Kimo claims to be a parent, the practice of adopting native Pacific names is recent, so I assume a wider age difference between the two of us.

Now, to teach, and gladly.

1) There is a difference between narrating what was said (objective data, expressed in the indicative), what was implied (subjective and/or reflective data, such as the subjunctive), what was inferred (interpretive data that trades in dialogue and is expressed often in the interrogative/inquisitive mood), and what was required (decisional data that is often clothed in the imperative/judgmental mood). The English language distinguishes between those grammatical and verb moods.

In this light, I never claimed "locals were racist." In a previous article, when I was still a regular columnist for the *Saipan Tribune*, I wrote one with the title: "On Being Local." The point of the article was to disassociate "local" from "ethnicity." So, use of the word "local" did not have an ethnic reference.

Also, inadvertently, *Saipan Tribune* edited my "Good Morning, America" title with the capital letters, for it was an allusion to Willie Nelson's "Good Morning America, how are you ..." song, which reflects the subjunctive mood, and the "Good Morning, America" morning TV program, which implied a desire for dialogue and intelligent discourse. Hardly was anything in the letter intended to be judgmental or condemnatory. If it reads that way, *mea culpa.*

On the other hand, if a judgment was inferred and the shoe fits, wear it!

2) In the version of the article that I shared with the Web site of my fellow Philippine high school alumni, as well as that of the Filipino-American Methodists, I prefixed the observation that 7 out of 10 of my Filipino colleagues chose McCain in the presidential election, and that 5 out of the 7 did so out of more than just racial overtones. I reported the fact but refrained from moral and ethical judgment since I was pointing to the fact that the challenge is common to our time. I did not include this in the *Saipan Tribune* version for the sake of brevity, and as those who have followed my published musings know, being brief is not one of my better habits!

In this spirit, yes, I would consider "racism" (the cultural, and particularly, the legal practice of considering one race to be superior/inferior over another) as a contradiction in our time that we can no longer propagate nor sustain, though those who have developed colonial minds from European and American influences may understandably have appropriated the racial superiority of the "white race" themselves from their colonial masters. I am, therefore, congruent with the observations of Dwaine Blas Reyes of Sierra Vista, AZ, in his concurrent letter to the editor titled, *The shackles of racism.* Kimo might want to peruse Dwaine's thoughts closely.

Enough teaching. If Kimo wants to follow up this discourse, or anyone else for that matter, I can be reached at SVESjaime@aol.com.

Now, as to wanting glory in 15 minutes of fame, I'm afraid I'm too late for that. Still, if Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska managed to get hers so swiftly and so dramatically in the last three months, is it so unreasonable to expect others to want the same, though perhaps, under more favorable circumstances? I must concede offhand that my legs are not that alluring, and my winks are hardly of any suasive value.

As to my engaging in repugnant activit(ies) as an educator, one might want to check the other things I do. Repugnance might just come as a mild term. In any case, PSS has a shortage of teachers, and Kimo and anyone else out there, if you have the credentials, or could get them, come join us. We can use more diversity, and definitely, could use the "local" touch.

Jaime Vergara
via e-mail

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼76°	▲86° ▼77°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

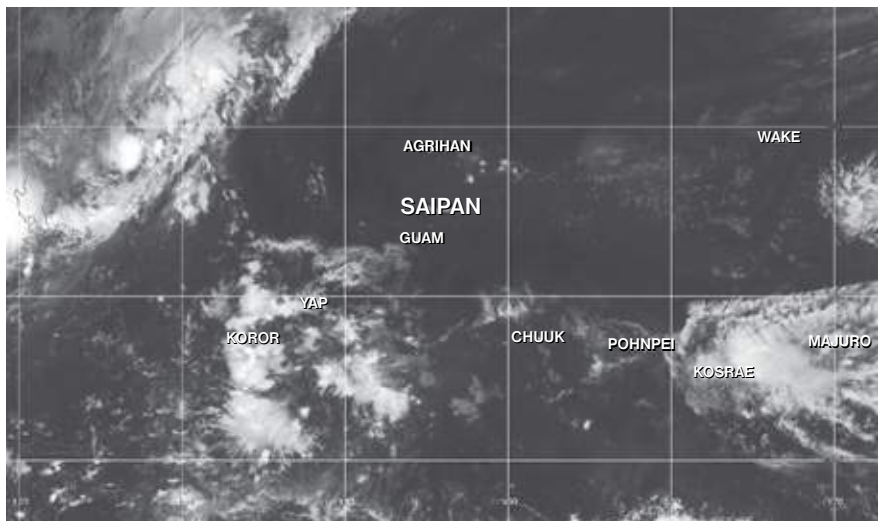
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲85	▼76
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Yap	Showers	▲85	▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼79
Pohnpei	Sunny	▲87	▼71
Kosrae	Rain	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲71	▼64
Beijing	Cloudy	▲57	▼37
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲79	▼68
Honolulu	Partly Sunny	▲82	▼70
London	Partly Sunny	▲48	▼42
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼54
Manila	Showers	▲81	▼75
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲85	▼68
Miami	Cloudy	▲84	▼73
New York	Partly Sunny	▲54	▼42
Osaka	Showers	▲62	▼45
Paris	Showers	▲49	▼38
Pusan	Cloudy	▲63	▼47
Rome	Showers	▲60	▼53
Salem	Rain	▲61	▼47
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲65	▼54
Seoul	Sunny	▲56	▼33
Tokyo	Showers	▲60	▼50
Washington, DC	Partly Sunny	▲52	▼46

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:25PM, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2008
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A warm front enters the discussion area at 25N135E and reaches southwestward to 23N132E then turns into a cold front to beyond 130E at 21N. Cloudiness and widespread rain are found along and northwest of the fronts or northwest of a line from 25N140E to 14N130E. A surface trough extends northwestward from EQ143E through a weak circulation centered south of Koror at 6N135E to end at 10N133E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near the trough axis over Koror and Yap or southwest of a line from 12N134E to 9N141E to 4N145E. A low-level trough runs southeastward from 5N162E through a weak circulation centered southeast of Kosrae at 4N164E to 3N170E and turns north-northeastward to 22N176E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen along the southern branch of the trough over Kosrae, Majuro and Tarawa Atoll but south of Kwajalein between 3N and 9N from 160E to 180 aided by upper-level divergence associated with a low centered northeast of Kwajalein at 14N173E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present, southeast of Wake Island between 13N and 19N from 170E to 180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:28AM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
07:05AM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
12:36PM Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
06:02PM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:17AM	5:45 PM
Thursday	6:18AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:18AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:19AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:19AM	5:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:40PM	4:50AM
Thursday	5:33PM	5:54AM
Friday	6:33PM	7:01AM
Saturday	7:38PM	8:09AM
Sunday	8:45PM	9:15AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 11, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

Saipan-Guam

CO9317	5:00am	5:50am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	2,3,4,5,6
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Narita

NW 099	5:00am	7:40am	Daily
NW 078	8:25am	1:30pm	2,3,4,5,6,7
NW 075	4:55pm	7:30pm	Daily

Saipan-Osaka

NW 083	4:30pm	7:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Nagoya

NW 078	8:25am	11:05am	Daily

Saipan-Seoul

OZ 604	2:30am	6:20am	1
OZ 604	2:40am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

Saipan-Busan

OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,4,5,7

Saipan-Shanghai

OZ 608	1:30am	4:30am	2,6
FM 844	2:50am	5:40am	2,6

Rota-Guam

CO 9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1,7

Guam-Manila

CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3,5 via Koror
CO 933	8:00pm	9:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:50am	1,2,4,6,7

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan

CO 9598	3:25am	4:00am	5,6

Guam-Saipan

CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	1,2,3,4,7
CO9598	2:30am	4:00am	5,6 via Rota
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

Narita-Saipan

NW 076	10:15am	2:40pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:25am+1	2,3,4,5,6,7
NW 100	8:45pm	1:15am+1	Daily

Osaka-Saipan

NW 084	10:40am	3:10pm	Daily

Nagoya-Saipan

NW 077	9:00pm	1:25am+1	Daily

Seoul-Saipan

OZ 605	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6

Busan-Saipan

OZ 607	9:30pm	2:40am+1	3,4,6,7

Shanghai-Saipan

OZ 607	5:30pm	12:30am+1	1,5
FM 843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1,5

Guam-Rota

CO 9598	2:30am	3:00am	5,6

Manila-Guam

CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3,5 via Koror
CO 934	11:10pm	4:40am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:10pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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Business

STOCK Portfolio

ASIAN MARKETS

AUSTRALIA
3,921.800
Down 138.200
(-3.40%)

HONG KONG
14,291.53
Down 453.10
(-3.07%)

JAKARTA
1,331.895
Down 8.786
(-0.66%)

TOKYO
8,809.30
Down 272.13
(-3.00%)

K. LUMPUR
897.61
Down 6.63
(-0.73%)

MANILA
1,948.22
Up 9.25
(+0.48%)

SINGAPORE
1,821.97
Down 63.05
(-3.34%)

SEOUL
1,128.73
Up 23.73
(+2.06%)

BANGKOK
456.97
Up 0.53
(+0.12%)

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW
8,870.54
-73.27

NASDAQ
1,616.74
-30.66

S&P
919.21
0.00

MONEY MARKET

Australian Dollar	1.4979
British Pound	0.6398
Canadian Dollar	1.1981
Chinese Renmbi	6.8261
Euro	0.786
Hong Kong Dollar	7.7501
Indian Rupee	47.645
Indonesian Rupiah	11325
Japanese Yen	97.848
Malaysian Ringgit	3.5815
New Zealand Dollar	1.7106
Philippine Peso	48.84
Singapore Dollar	1.5004
South Korean Won	1332
Swiss Franc	1.1789
Taiwan Dollar	32.838
Thailand Baht	34.93

In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press

Fed's bailout for AIG swells to more than $150B

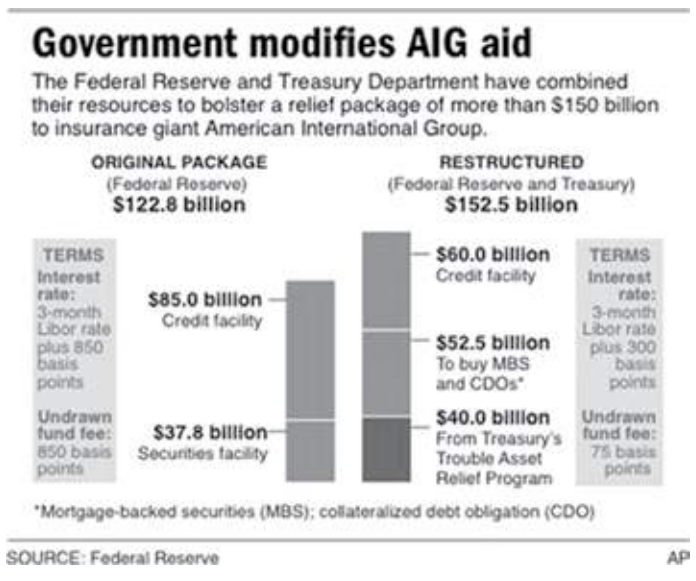
WASHINGTON (AP)—When the government offered an emergency loan to insurer American International Group in September, eyebrows shot up at the $85 billion price tag. Now it looks like pocket change.

The size of the AIG lifeline swelled to more than $150 billion on Monday, a record for a private company. But the head of the broader financial rescue package was cool to other companies reaching for a piece of the bailout pie.

The new AIG package includes a $40 billion chunk of the $700 billion financial bailout. It's the first time money from the big rescue bill has gone to any company other than a bank.

General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, burning through cash and bleeding jobs, are prodding the government for more help. The leaders of the House and Senate have urged Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson to get some of the $700 billion to the Big Three.

The automakers, covering all their options, are also pushing to get help as part of a new, multi-billion-dollar stimulus package for the economy if Democrats push it through Congress when a lame-duck session convenes next week.


Government modifies AIG aid
The Federal Reserve and Treasury Department have combined their resources to bolster a relief package of more than $150 billion to insurance giant American International Group.
ORIGINAL PACKAGE
(Federal Reserve)
$122.8 billion
RESTRUCTURED
(Federal Reserve and Treasury)
$152.5 billion
TERMS
Interest rate: 3-month Libor rate plus 850 basis points
Undrawn fund fee: 850 basis points
$85.0 billion
Credit facility
$37.8 billion
Securities facility
$60.0 billion
Credit facility
$52.5 billion
To buy MBS and CDOs*
$40.0 billion
From Treasury's Trouble Asset Relief Program
TERMS
Interest rate: 3-month Libor rate plus 300 basis points
Undrawn fund fee: 75 basis points
*Mortgage-backed securities (MBS); collateralized debt obligation (CDO)
SOURCE: Federal Reserve
AP

President-elect Barack Obama has said his transition team would explore options to provide relief to the auto industry, and President Bush's press secretary said Monday the White House would "listen to" Congress if they try to help automakers.

Any money would be on top of the $25 billion in loans that Congress passed in September to help retool auto plants to build more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Neel Kashkari, the interim head of the $700 billion bailout program, was cool to the idea of funneling the money to companies beyond banks and AIG.

"This morning's action with AIG was a one-off event necessary for financial stability. It is not the establishment of a new program," he said at a financial conference in New York.

In a separate development late Monday, the Fed granted the request of credit card company American Express Co. to become a bank holding company.

Although the new status will subject the company to greater regulatory scrutiny, American Express will also gain access to the Fed's emergency lending program. The company, which last month announced plans to slash its global work force, has been hard hit by the credit crisis as even the more affluent consumers the company caters to struggle to pay off their debts.

The original Fed loan to AIG was $85 billion, and the Fed added a $38 billion loan in October. But that has not been enough to firm up the company, which is so big and interconnected to other firms that its failure would devastate the economy.

Asia stocks lackluster, China stimulus hopes wane

HONG KONG (AP)—Asian stock markets were lackluster Tuesday after weakness on Wall Street, as concerns about the global economy sapped enthusiasm over China's nearly $600 billion package to boost growth.

Tokyo's Nikkei 225 index was down 45.23 points, or 0.5 percent, to 9036.20 after initially slipping 3.3 percent. In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng benchmark was 0.6 percent lower at 14,660.74 points.

Australia's benchmark fell 2.7 percent while markets in Singapore and South Korea eked out slim gains.

The Shanghai Composite index, down early in the session, ticked up about 0.4 percent after figures showed the country's inflation rate eased further last month.

Regional equities were up sharply Monday on hopes that China's 4 trillion yuan ($586 billion) stimulus package, announced Sunday, would keep its economic growth from falling too fast and help fuel demand for exports from other Asian countries.

The rally proved short lived amid fresh evidence of more economic troubles.

In the U.S., major electronics retailer Circuit City Stores Inc. filed for bankruptcy protection. Investors also speculated about the fate of General Motors Corp., Chrysler and Ford Motor Co. after the automakers met with lawmakers last week in hopes of securing financial help.

In Asia, Japan's government reported the country's current account surplus in September plunged almost 50 percent from a year earlier as export growth waned in the face of a global slowdown.

"It's what I'd term a 'fally:' a rally based on fallacy," Kirby Daley, senior strategist at Newedge Group in Hong Kong, said of Monday's advance. "The fallacy being that the China stimulus package is the answer to all of Asia's problems. While it will help and is a step in the right direction, it will not fully insulate Asia from feeling the impact of the global downturn."

Wall Street's lower finish weighed on the markets. The Dow fell 73.27, or 0.8 percent, to 8,870.54 overnight, after rising by 215 points in early trading and tumbling by as many as 183.

AP

Pedestrians look up at an electric market board in Tokyo, Monday, Nov. 10, 2008. Japan's key stock index jumped more than 5 percent in early trade Monday as sentiment turned upbeat on China's massive economic stimulus package and a weakening yen.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Fannie posts $29B 3Q loss, $100B may not be enough

WASHINGTON (AP)—Fannie Mae on Monday posted a $29 billion loss in the third quarter as it took a massive tax-related charge, and warned that its $100 billion lifeline from the government may not be sufficient for its solvency should it continue to lose money. The mortgage finance company, seized by federal regulators more than two months ago, posted a loss of $13 per share for the July-September quarter, mainly due to a $21.4 billion non-cash charge to reduce the value of tax assets. That compares with a loss of $1.4 billion, or $1.56 a share, in the year-ago period. Not only may it have to tap the $100 billion federal backstop in the coming months, Fannie said. If the company continues to suffer substantial losses "or to the extent that we experience a liquidity crisis that prevents us from accessing the unsecured debt markets, this commitment may not be sufficient to keep us in solvent condition or from being placed into receivership," it said in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Analysts surveyed by Thomson Reuters had expected a loss of $1.60 per share.

Circuit City files for bankruptcy protection

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Facing pressure from vendors and consumers who aren't spending, Circuit City Stores Inc. filed for bankruptcy protection Monday as it heads into the busy holiday season with hopes that the move will help it survive. Under Chapter 11 protection, the nation's second-biggest electronics retailer can keep operating while it develops a reorganization plan. Its Canadian operations also filed for similar protection. The company also said it cut 700 more jobs at its Richmond, Va., headquarters, after announcing a week ago that it would close 20 percent of its stores and lay off thousands of workers. In court documents, Chief Financial Officer Bruce H. Besanko cited three factors: erosion of vendor confidence, decreased liquidity and the global economic crisis. "Without immediate relief, the company is concerned that it will not receive goods for Black Friday and the upcoming holiday season, which could cause irreparable harm to the company and its stakeholders," Besanko said in the filing. Its shares fell 14 cents, or about 56 percent, to 11 cents on Monday before being halted.

Oil falls to $60 as China spending optimism fades

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices fell to near an 18-month low at $60 a barrel Tuesday in Asia as optimism waned that a huge Chinese spending plan will avert a prolonged slowdown in the global economy.

Light, sweet crude for December delivery was down $1.47 to $60.94 a barrel, after falling as low as $60.29, in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange by midday in Singapore. The contract overnight rose $1.37 to settle at $62.41.

Oil closed at $60.77 on Nov. 6, the lowest price since March 2007, and has fallen about 59 percent since reaching a record 147.27 in mid-July.

Oil prices and stock markets jumped Monday after China said it planned to spend $586 billion in a bid to spur economic growth. But pessimism soon returned as investors focused again on a swooning U.S. economy, which faces its worst recession in decades.

Most Asian stock markets fell Tuesday, following the lead of the Dow Jones industrials average, which dropped 0.8 percent Monday. Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index slid 1.3 percent Tuesday, while Australia's main index lost 3.6 percent.

"The market is realizing that package can't prevent us from sliding into the mess we're heading toward," said Toby Hassall, an analyst with Commodity Warrants Australia in Sydney. "The economic outlook is pretty bleak."

Investors are grappling with how bad the recession in the U.S. could be, as government statistics and company results reflect an abrupt slowdown in consumer demand, bank lending and investment during the second half of the year.

Nation

Bushes and Obamas: All smiles at the White House

WASHINGTON (AP)—All smiles and compliments, President-elect Obama and his wife, Michelle, called on President Bush and first lady Laura Bush Monday in a White House visit that was part political ritual, part practical introduction and a striking symbol of the historic transfer of power to come.

The president and Obama talked war and financial crisis. Laura Bush and Michelle Obama talked about raising daughters in the nation's most famous house.

Then Obama flew back to Chicago to work on setting up the new administration that will take over on Jan. 20.

Mrs. Obama went out hunting a new school for the kids, visiting two of the capital city's best-known private schools.

If first impressions matter, Obama and his wife displayed one similarity to the super-punctual Bushes, pulling up to the White House's South Portico 11 minutes early. The couples traded warm and easy greetings in the crisp autumn sunshine, with the wives exchanging pleasantries about the fall hues each wore—Mrs. Bush in a brown dress and Mrs. Obama in a red one.

While Obama and Bush, in business suits, proceeded waving and smiling down the White House Colonnade for nearly two hours of private talks, Mrs. Obama and Mrs. Bush had their own agenda: talk of raising children in most unusual circumstances. Mrs. Bush conducted a tour of the living quarters of the historic mansion and made introductions to the army of residence staff who look after first families.

AP

In this photo released by the White House, President Bush and President-elect Obama meet in the Oval Office of the White House Monday, Nov. 10, 2008, in Washington.

Michelle Obama had toured the White House before with daughters Malia, who is 10, and Sasha, who is 7. But the two women had never met.

The 43rd president and the man who will be the 44th—and first black—commander in chief met alone in the Oval Office, with no handlers or staff. It was Obama's first time in the storied workspace, even though he had been to the White House previously for events.

Neither the Bushes nor the Obamas spoke to reporters, and details about their meetings were few.

Obama spokesman Robert Gibbs said the two men "talked extensively" about the economic situation and foreign policy.

"Obviously the topics that came up are what you've seen and heard about in the news recently and about what a number of transition officials spoke about on the Sunday (TV talk) shows," he said.

Topics included the housing industry and foreclosures as well as "the need to get the economy back on track," Gibbs said.

Obama's aides said the president-elect pushed for urgent action to help the ailing auto industry. "It was a discussion about the broad health of the industry," Gibbs said, and was not just limited to just one of the nation's three largest car makers.

Obama plans US terror trials to replace Guantanamo

WASHINGTON (AP)—President-elect Obama's advisers are crafting plans to close the Guantanamo Bay prison and prosecute terrorism suspects in the U.S., a plan the Bush administration said Monday was easier said than done. Under the plan being crafted inside Obama's camp, some detainees would be released and others would be charged in U.S. courts, where they would receive constitutional rights and open trials.

But, underscoring the difficult decisions Obama must make to fulfill his pledge of shutting down Guantanamo, the plan could require the creation of a new legal system to handle the classified information inherent in some of the most sensitive cases.

Many of the about 250 Guantanamo detainees are cleared for release, but the Bush administration has not able been to find a country willing to take them.

Advisers participating directly in the planning spoke on condition of anonymity because the plans aren't final.

The plan being developed by Obama's team has been championed by legal scholars from both political parties. But as details surfaced Monday, it drew criticism from Democrats who oppose creating a new legal system and from Republicans who oppose bringing terrorism suspects to the U.S. mainland.

Obama foreign policy adviser Denis McDonough said the president-elect wants Guantanamo closed, but no decision has been made "about how and where to try the detainees, and there is no process in place to make that decision until his national security and legal teams are assembled."

Obama seeks a break from the Bush administration, which established military tribunals to prosecute detainees at the Navy base in Cuba and strongly opposes bringing prisoners to the United States. At the White House, spokeswoman Dana Perino said Monday that President Bush has faced many challenges in trying to close the prison.

Palin blames Bush policies for GOP defeat

WASILLA, Alaska (AP)—Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, amid speculation she'll run for president in four years, blamed Bush administration policies for the defeat last week of the GOP ticket and prayed she wouldn't miss "an open door" for her next political opportunity.

"I'm like, OK, God, if there is an open door for me somewhere, this is what I always pray, I'm like, don't let me miss the open door," Palin said in an interview with Fox News on Monday. "And if there is an open door in '12 or four years later, and if it is something that is going to be good for my family, for my state, for my nation, an opportunity for me, then I'll plow through that door."

In a wide-ranging interview with Fox's Greta Van Susteren, Palin says she neither wanted nor asked for the $150,000-plus wardrobe the Republican Party bankrolled, and thought the issue was an odd one at the end of the campaign, considering "what is going on in the world today."

"I did not order the clothes. Did not ask for the clothes," Palin said. "I would have been happy to have worn my own clothes from Day One. But that is kind of an odd issue, an odd campaign issue as things were wrapping up there as to who ordered what and who demanded what."

"It's amazing that we did as well as we did," Palin, who was Sen. John McCain's running mate, said of the election in a separate interview with the Anchorage Daily News.

Studies: Elderly fare well in open-heart surgery

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Eighty-year-olds with clogged arteries or leaky heart valves used to be sent home with a pat on the arm from their doctors and pills to try to ease their symptoms. Now more are getting open-heart surgery, with remarkable survival rates rivaling those of much younger people, new studies show.

Years ago, physicians "were told we were pushing the envelope" to operate on a 70-year-old, said Dr. Vincent Bufalino, a cardiologist at Loyola University in Chicago. But today "we have elderly folks who are extremely viable, mentally quite sharp," who want to decide for themselves whether to take the risk, he said.

Even 90-year-olds are having open-heart surgery, said Dr. Harlan Krumholz, a Yale University cardiologist who has researched older heart patients.

"Age itself shouldn't be an automatic exclusion," he said. Not every older person can undergo such a challenging operation, but the great results seen in the new studies show that doctors have gotten good at figuring out who can.

The studies were reported at an American Heart Association conference this week in New Orleans.

People 75 and older are the fastest-growing segment of the population; this group is projected to more than quadruple over the next 50 years.

ACROSS THE NATION

DNC Chairman Howard Dean will not seek second term

WASHINGTON (AP)—Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean plans to step down from his post when his term expires in January, wrapping up a tenure in which the party heavily invested in all 50 states for a payoff that helped elect Barack Obama president. Dean, who was briefly his party's presidential front-runner in 2004, was elected DNC chairman in 2005 and has long vowed to serve only one, four-year term. At a postelection news conference in Washington last week, Dean indicated again that he didn't plan to stay on, aides said on Monday. President-elect Obama, a Democrat, was expected to choose Dean's successor. Traditionally, the president selects the national chairman of his own party. Dean was the architect of a "50-State Strategy," investing money and staff in every state—including those where Democrats had long fared poorly—to build party infrastructure and lay the groundwork for electoral gains. The Obama campaign, working with DNC organizers in all 50 states, won several states that had not elected a Democratic president in decades, including Virginia, North Carolina and Indiana.

Senator asks sites not to sell inaugural tickets

WASHINGTON (AP)—The senator overseeing Barack Obama's swearing-in ceremony said Monday she's writing to Internet sites like eBay asking them not to sell scalped inauguration tickets. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., also said she's crafting a bill that would make a federal crime of selling tickets to the historic event Jan. 20. Feinstein, who chairs the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, said she foresees overwhelming demand for the 240,000 available tickets and has heard reports they may be sold for as much as $40,000 online. The tickets are supposed to be free to the public and distributed through congressional offices. Lawmakers' offices won't get the tickets until shortly before the inauguration, to try to prevent scalping. In-person pickup will be required. "These tickets are given for free to people. This is a major civic event of the time, and no one pays for their tickets, and we believe no one should be required to pay for their tickets," Feinstein said in an interview.

Harvard seeking spending cuts amid economic crisis

BOSTON (AP)—Harvard University is considering spending cuts because the economic slowdown may reduce federal grants and the school's substantial endowment, President Drew Faust said Monday. Harvard's endowment posted an 8.6 percent return and grew to $36.9 billion in the fiscal year that ended June 30. The school, however, lost 12.7 percent on its U.S. stock portfolio and 12.1 percent on its foreign equity portfolio during that time. Faust's spokesman on Monday declined to say much the endowment has lost during the current economic turmoil. Still, Faust warned in an e-mail to faculty, staff and students that "we must recognize that Harvard is not invulnerable to the seismic financial shocks in the larger world. Our own economic landscape has been significantly altered." "We need to be prepared to absorb unprecedented endowment losses and plan for a period of greater financial restraint," she said.

Asia

Delays may have fueled sympathy for Bali bombers

TENGGULUN, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia mishandled the Bali bomber case, enabling three death-row inmates to foment an image as Islamic martyrs and raising security concerns, experts said Monday.

The convicts urged retaliation for their pending deaths in countless TV interviews broadcast to a national audience before they were executed by firing squad early Sunday. Images of the men praying or meeting with relatives further fueled public sympathy.

But their executions are not believed to have heightened the terrorism threat in the world's most populous Muslim nation—still considered a potential target because fugitives of the Jemaah Islamiyah Southeast Asian terror network remain on the loose.

During five years of legal battles, Imam Samudra, 38, and brothers Amrozi Nurhasyim, 47, and Ali Ghufron, 48, admitted planning and assisting the Oct. 12, 2002, Bali nightclub attacks—allegedly funded by al-Qaida and carried out by Jemaah Islamiyah.

Critics accused authorities of repeatedly missing their own deadlines for the highly anticipated executions, building expectations and keeping the militants in the media spotlight.

"This is the government's fault, not that of the media," said Fachry Ali, a political analyst at the University of Indonesia. "Though their supporters have had an emotional reaction, I believe the backlash will remain small."

A spokesman for the attorney general, Jasman Panjaitan, dismissed criticism of the government's handling of the case, arguing that there would always be a hard-line fringe voicing empathy for the bombers.

"It's not related to the execution process, which took a long time to ensure their rights and fair justice," he said, responding to criticism that courts continued to accept petitions from the defendants even after all legal channels had been exhausted.

6 months on, quake rebuilding challenges China

BEICHUAN, China (AP)—Sealed off by guards and a chain-link fence ringed with barbed wire, the moment when an earthquake ripped through this region and destroyed Beichuan remains perfectly preserved.

Only a few orange- and blue-roofed buildings, sandwiched between towering piles of rubble, stand amid the mud and rocks that cover the valley floor.

The town was so shattered by the 7.9-magnitude temblor in Sichuan province on May 12 that the government has decided to abandon it and rebuild. The only question is where.

Six months after the worst quake to hit China in three decades, the future remains uncertain for many survivors. Jobs are hard to come by, and government aid payments are about to end. Many people are still in temporary housing.

The earthquake killed 69,227 people and left 17,923 missing and presumed dead. More than 5 million were left homeless, and China suffered $123 billion in direct economic losses.

Among the hardest hit areas was Beichuan county, a region of small mines and tea plantations whose forested hills were home to 160,000 people. The town of Beichuan saw half its 26,000 residents killed and 70 percent of its buildings destroyed.

Along a mountain road overlooking the valley, some survivors have set up stands to sell photos of the town before and after the disaster.

"After the quake, a lot of people came to Beichuan—foreigners and Chinese. On the weekends, hundreds of people come. This is a permanent memory for all people," said 24-year-old Yu Bing.

His display of laminated photos document the first moments of disaster: a huge crack where the road buckled, a fallen woman bleeding, gray dust covering everything.

"No one should forget," he said quietly as he sold a photo for about $1.50 to a visitor from Chengdu, capital of Sichuan province.

AP

Police checks the residents identity before letting them pass the security gate wall with barb wire fences after local authorities sealed off the quake hit Beichuan county, Sichuan province in China Nov. 6, 2008.

On a nearby table are incense sticks and the recording of a Buddhist prayer. A sign urged visitors to light a joss stick and pray for the dead.

No one has been allowed into Beichuan except for residents, who are required to show ID. Government leaders have said Beichuan will become the site of a national monument to victims and an earthquake museum.

Xie Chenyu, a 45-year-old tea grower with ruddy cheeks and braided hair, lost her home when the quake caused a landslide that blocked a river and created a lake. She sells quake photos to tourists, taking in up to $3 a day.

"Before, life was easier, I grew tea. We were comfortable," she said. "Now I worry a lot. I have two kids in school and it's a heavy burden. ... I worry when the next quake will come. Whenever there is an aftershock, I feel like I will die."

China's leaders have called reconstruction a priority. Last week, the government announced plans to pump $146 billion into the effort over the next three years. Some $17.5 billion will be spent on ensuring schools, hospitals and other public facilities are built to higher standards.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Taiwan's former president says he faces arrest

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Former Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian has said he expects to be arrested after being questioned over alleged corruption at the prosecutor's office on Tuesday, and police surrounded the building as dozens of his supporters gathered. Speaking to reporters before entering the office Tuesday, Chen said his probable arrest was linked to attempts by newly installed Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou to placate China, following violent protests last week against a visiting Chinese envoy. Chen, who has denied any wrongdoing, is an ardent supporter of Taiwanese independence, a cause decried by Beijing, which insists that Taiwan is part of Chinese territory. China has threatened war if the island moves to make its 59-year break with the mainland permanent. "Long live Taiwanese democracy," Chen declared to his supporters outside the prosecutor's office. "Long live Taiwanese independence."

US troops kill 14 Afghans in disputed encounter

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—American soldiers shot and killed 14 security guards after an encounter in eastern Afghanistan, and the Afghan president said Monday he feared the deaths would only discredit his own government in the eyes of its people. The U.S. coalition said its troops shot at three vehicles carrying armed men in the eastern Khost province Sunday only after its occupants opened fire on their forces. "There were secondary explosions in the vehicles, and 14 armed men were killed. Numerous ammunition belts and small-arms weapons were recovered from the vehicles," a statement from the U.S. military said Monday. The military said it has launched a joint investigation with Afghan authorities. President Hamid Karzai, in a statement issued Monday, said those killed were private security guards working for a road construction company. "Carrying out such attacks will only expand the gap between the people and the government of Afghanistan, as well as between Afghanistan and its international allies," Karzai said.

Chinese emperor's lavish quarters are restored

BEIJING (AP)—In between dispatching armies to secure the empire and building China into the richest country in the world, the Qianlong Emperor commissioned a retirement home for himself in the Forbidden City palace. Never intended as a simple hideaway, the garden quarters built in the 1770s by the fifth emperor in the Qing Dynasty set a standard for opulence befitting an emperor renowned for his power and refinement: screens inlaid with rare hardwoods, intricate silk embroideries, delicate carvings of jade and bamboo. To Chinese eyes of 200 years ago, it screams wealth. "It's as if everything is gold-plated," said Nancy Berliner, a curator of Chinese art at Massachusetts' Peabody Essex Museum. Unused and sealed off for most the past century, the garden is three years into a 12-year restoration. One part, a lavish apartment and private theater for the emperor—the Studio of Exhaustion from Diligent Service—was officially completed Monday and will be open to the public next year for the first time ever. Having been largely abandoned, damaged by neglect rather than the vandalism that ruined many Chinese antiquities, the studio contains one of the best-preserved interiors from Imperial China.

RP says it won't give asylum to Thaksin

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines will not grant political asylum to ousted Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra after his British visa was revoked, an official said Monday.

Thai media have reported that Thaksin may be heading to Manila, but Philippine authorities said he has not applied for asylum and he would likely be turned down if he did.

"There is no such move," presidential spokesman Jesus Dureza told reporters. "But if there is any in the future, we will courteously tell Thaksin that we will not allow him to come to the country to seek political asylum."

Dureza did not elaborate on the reasons for the decision, but giving sanctuary to Thaksin, who has been accused of corruption in Thailand, will likely open President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo up to criticism from a feisty opposition and anti-government groups.

Arroyo has survived at least four coup plots, three opposition impeachment bids and political storms touched off by accusations of massive corruption, which she has steadfastly denied.

The Philippines, which has an extradition treaty with Thailand, will not be a safe haven for Thaksin. But he can enter Manila as a tourist for 21 days without a visa, a privilege given to nationals from Southeast Asia.

Thai Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat, Thaksin's brother-in-law, arrived in Manila on Monday to discuss bilateral ties and the global financial turbulence with Arroyo, but has not made any statement on speculation that he might meet Thaksin. Somchai will leave Manila later Monday.

Thaksin, who fled Thailand in August to escape several charges including corruption, was sentenced in absentia by a Thai court in October to two years in prison. Prosecutors planned to seek his extradition from Britain before his British visa was revoked Saturday.

Thai media say Thaksin is currently traveling in China.

Japan protests unannounced visit by US nuclear sub

TOKYO (AP)—Japan lodged a protest with the United States after an American nuclear submarine made an unannounced visit in southern Japan, the Foreign Ministry said Monday.

The USS *Providence* arrived in the White Beach Naval Facility on the southern island of Okinawa on Monday without prior notice, a requirement under a bilateral agreement, and stayed there for two hours, the ministry said.

"It is extremely regrettable that a U.S. submarine visited one of our ports without proper advance notice," the ministry said in a statement. "The United States must notify our government at least 24 hours before its nuclear submarines visit our ports."

Nuclear warships and weapons are a sensitive topic for Japan, the only country that has suffered atomic attacks.

Shinichi Nishimiya, director of the ministry's North American Bureau, lodged a protest with the U.S. Embassy, demanding an explanation and efforts to prevent such incidents in the future, the ministry said.

It said James Zumwalt, the embassy's deputy chief of mission, responded later Monday that the incident was caused by miss-communication in the U.S. Navy and that the U.S. government regretted it.

U.S. Embassy officials were not immediately available for comment.

A disclosure in August by the U.S. Navy that another nuclear submarine, the USS *Houston*, had leaked small amounts of radiation while visiting Japanese ports over the past two years triggered protests in Japan, though an investigation concluded it posed no health threat.

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Congo cholera outbreak spreads amid tense standoff

KIBATI, Congo (AP)—A cholera outbreak in a sprawling refugee camp has spread to eastern Congo's provincial capital of Goma, increasing fears of an epidemic amid a tense standoff between troops and rebels, officials said. Cholera cases rose slightly Monday in the towns of Goma and Kibati, with at least 90 known cases and six new admissions overnight. Officials with Doctors Without Borders said the cases they were treating were well-contained. Only four new ones were reported at the group's clinic in Kibati camp. But dozens of people have died of cholera in recent weeks elsewhere in eastern Congo. Doctors also fear an epidemic behind rebel lines, where access has been limited by fighting and rebels have driven tens of thousands of people from camps where outbreaks had been contained. Also, refugee conditions in many places continue to worsen. In an unofficial refugee camp set up in Goma for park rangers and their families, some 900 people crowded into plastic tents—some smaller than a sports-utility vehicle—and hungrily eyed six heavy sacks of beans donated by an international Catholic charity.

Israel resuming fuel shipments to Gaza

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel reversed course Monday and decided to resume fuel shipments to Gaza's electricity plant despite continued rocket fire. Gaza authorities already had shut down the facility, cutting power to much of Gaza City. Israel stopped the shipments last week and closed Gaza's border crossings in response to a wave of Palestinian rocket attacks, which followed an Israeli incursion into Gaza and a fierce gunbattle between army troops and Hamas forces. The clashes have tested an Egyptian-mediated truce that has held for five months. Israel is the sole provider of industrial fuel to Gaza's only power plant. Israeli defense officials said Defense Minister Ehud Barak agreed to a request by peace envoy Tony Blair to resume the shipments, and Israel will allow minimal amounts of fuel for the power plant to enter Gaza starting Tuesday. Otherwise, crossings would remain closed, they said. The defense officials spoke on condition of anonymity because no public statement had been released.

Guarded shipping corridor limiting Somali piracy

CAIRO, Egypt (AP)—A multinational force of warships has carved out a narrow shipping corridor off the coast of Somalia that is helping protect merchant vessels from pirate attacks, the force's commander said Monday. Ninety percent of ships transiting the perilous Gulf of Aden are using the guarded corridor and there have been no hijackings inside the zone since it was set up on Aug. 22, said Danish Commodore Per Bigum Christensen. In a telephone interview from his East African base in Djibouti, Christensen said coalition naval forces were also having success using planes, helicopters and drones to find and track suspect vessels until they can be boarded and searched. Pirate attacks off the Somali coast have surged 75 percent this year, as bandits lured by million-dollar ransoms have pushed farther out to sea in search of bigger prey among the 20,000 oil tankers, freighters and merchant vessels transiting the Gulf of Aden each year.

Iraq spokesman says US security offer not enough

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's government spokesman said Monday the proposed U.S. changes to a draft security agreement were "not enough" and asked Washington to offer new amendments if it wants the pact to win parliamentary approval.

The comments by spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh were the first by the Iraqis since the U.S. submitted a response last week to an Iraqi request for changes in the draft agreement, which would keep U.S. troops here until 2012 and give Iraq a greater role in the management of the U.S. mission.

■ ■ ■

BAGHDAD (AP)—A suicide bomber Monday struck a crowd rushing to help schoolgirls trapped in a bus by an earlier bombing. The Interior Ministry said at least 31 people were killed—the deadliest in a string of blasts that raise doubts about Iraqi security forces as the U.S. prepares to reduce troops.

The ministry said another 71 people were wounded in the twin blasts, the deadliest attack in Baghdad in six weeks. A third bomb exploded about 130 yards (meters) from the scene in the mostly Shiite Kasrah section of north Baghdad but caused no casualties, police said.

AP

Iraqi civilians inspect a damaged car after a bomb explosion in Baghdad, Iraq Monday, Nov. 10, 2008.

No group claimed responsibility for the attacks during the morning rush hour. But suspicion fell on al-Qaida in Iraq, which has made suicide bombings against Shiite civilians its signature attack.

■ ■ ■

Al-Dabbagh said his remarks constituted the government response, but it had not been officially conveyed to the Americans.

State Department spokesman Robert Wood declined to comment on Al-Dabbagh's remark except to say: "We have not received any official response from the Iraqi government." U.S. officials had described the latest draft submitted to the Iraqis as the "final text."

Privately, however, some U.S. officials have said they expect protracted haggling over the agreement, with the Iraqis pressing for more concessions until the last minute.

"The American answer is not enough for the government to accept it in its current form," al-Dabbagh told The Associated Press. "There are still some points in which we have not reached a bilateral understanding."

Al-Dabbagh said the government was inviting the U.S. "to give answers that are suitable to the Iraqis."

The agreement must be approved by parliament before the Dec. 31 expiration of the U.N. mandate that allows U.S. troops to operate legally. Without an agreement or a new U.N. mandate, U.S. military operations would have to stop as of Jan. 1.

Death toll rises to 94 in collapse of a Haiti school

PETIONVILLE, Haiti (AP)—U.S., French and Haitian firefighters used sonar, cameras and dogs Monday in the search for victims at a collapsed Haitian school, but as the stench of death rose from the wreckage, they no longer expected to find anyone else alive.

Three days after the concrete building suddenly collapsed during a children's party, killing at least 94 students and adults and severely injuring 150 more, Capt. Michael Istvan of Fairfax County, Va., said the chance of more survivors was remote. He also said the death toll won't likely go much higher.

Several bodies were pulled out Monday, caked in concrete dust, and radar and cameras located several more.

But there have been no indications of survivors since four children were pulled from the wreckage Saturday morning, said Daniel Vigee, head of a Martinique-based French rescue team.

Rescuers were probing spots where neighbors claimed to have heard voices or received cell phone calls from trapped survivors, without success. Finally, before dawn Monday, they opened up new areas to search by tearing down a two-story high concrete slab that had been hanging precariously since the collapse.

Istvan's firefighters were flown in by the U.S. Agency for International Development, and an eight-person military team from the U.S. Southern Command also helped. They had warned that removing the wall could be too dangerous to rescuers and any potential survivors, but Haitians removed it anyway using hand-held power tools as hopes dimmed.

2,000-year-old gold earring unearthed in Jerusalem dig

JERUSALEM (AP)—A luxurious gold, pearl and emerald earring provides a new visual clue about the life of the elite in Jerusalem some 2,000 years ago. And its discovery was a true eureka moment for excavators.

The piece was found beneath a parking lot next to the walls of Jerusalem's Old City. It dates to the Roman period just after the time of Jesus, said Doron Ben-Ami, who directed the dig.

The earring was uncovered in a destroyed Byzantine structure built centuries after the piece was made, showing it was likely passed down through generations, he said.

Archaeologists came upon the earring in a corner while excavating the ruins of the building under a parking lot. "Suddenly one of the excavators came up shouting 'Eureka!'" said Ben-Ami.

The find is eye-catching: A large pearl inlaid in gold with two drop pieces, each with an emerald and pearl set in gold.

"It must have belonged to someone of the elite in Jerusalem," Ben-Ami said. "Such a precious item, it couldn't be one of just ordinary people."

Archaeologist Shimon Gibson, who was not involved in the dig, said the find was truly amazing, less because of its Roman origins than for its precious nature.

AP

This undated photo made available by the Israeli Antiquities Authority on Monday, Nov. 10, 2008 shows what archaeologists say is a 2,000-year-old gold earring discovered beneath a parking lot next to the walls of Jerusalem's old city.

"Jewelry is hardly preserved in archaeological context in Jerusalem," he said, because precious metals were often sold or melted down during the many historic takeovers of the city.

"It adds to the visual history of Jerusalem," Gibson added, saying it brings attention to the life of women in antiquity.

Ben-Ami the piece's placement in the destroyed building protected it from looters and kept it preserved. Its location also showed that it must be older than the house itself.

The Israel Antiquities Authority said the earring appeared to have been made using a technique similar to that depicted in portraits from Roman-era Egypt. Experts were able to date the earring by comparing it to similar finds in Europe.

In a statement released Monday, the Antiquities Authority said the earring was "astonishingly well-preserved." Finds from the Roman period are rare in Jerusalem, Ben-Ami said, because the city was destroyed by the Roman Empire in the first century A.D.

Though Gibson dates the piece slightly later than the antiquities authority, to sometime between the second and fourth centuries A.D., he said its quality and beauty were impressive.

And Ben-Ami said he expects more small, luxury items to turn up in future excavations.

Germany seeking Nazi suspect's extradition

BERLIN (AP)—Germany's top Nazi hunter on Monday asked Munich prosecutors to request the extradition of an 88-year-old Ohio man accused of bearing responsibility for the deaths of 29,000 Jews at a concentration camp in Poland.

Kurt Schrimm, head of the special German prosecutors' office that has hunted Nazis since 1958, said he believes transport lists of prisoners that arrived at Sobibor during John Demjanjuk's seven-month tenure at the camp can be used as evidence of his alleged involvement in their deaths.

"We believe that it's enough," Schrimm said. "We believe that we will get a trial."

Munich prosecutors were asked to file the extradition request because Demjanjuk lived there briefly after the war.

Demjanjuk, a retired autoworker who emigrated to the United States in 1952, denies involvement in war crimes, saying he served in the Soviet army and became a prisoner of war when he was captured by Germany in 1942.

A native of Ukraine who settled in suburban Cleveland, Demjanjuk was extradited to Israel in 1986, when the U.S. Justice Department believed he was the sadistic Nazi guard known as Ivan the Terrible at the Treblinka death camp.

He spent seven years in custody before the Israeli high court freed him after receiving evidence that another Ukrainian, not Demjanjuk, was that Nazi guard.

Demjanjuk's son, John Demjanjuk Jr., said in an e-mail to The Associated Press that his father is in very poor health and could not defend himself at another foreign trial.

Campus Life

Macduff, Arriola, Seman are SVES' nominees

Teacher of the Year

Barbara D.L.G. Macduff is the San Vicente Eelementary School's Teacher of the Year. She is married to a former Navy diver, a retired agronomist and an educator. She is a proud parent of two sons and two daughters and a grandmother of two grandsons and a granddaughter. Her affiliation with PSS started back in March of 1996 as Koblerville Elementary's school secretary, but she knew early on that she was destined to achieve more.

"While I was a secretary I felt very strongly that I could do more good in the classroom. Not meeting the qualification of a teacher at the time did not stop me from becoming one," Macduff said.

She enrolled at the Northern Marianas College and started taking evening classes. Slowly, Macduff built up her class schedule and eventually became a full time student while working full-time as a school secretary.

In May of 2002, she completed the required courses and was awarded her Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education. Macduff didn't stop there as she received her Master's of Education Degree through Framingham State College two years later.

While Macduff had to make plenty of sacrifices of her own to earn her degrees, she said her efforts are repaid every time her students overcome the individual challenges in the classroom.

"Teaching is a very demanding profession that demands sacrifice, time, understanding, patience, and love of students. It is a profession that is very challenging at times. With all the hardship that we go through, the students' accomplishments are the most gratifying feeling a teacher possesses."

Macduff has been with San Vicente Elementary School for nearly six and a half years; four years in Kindergarten and more than two years in second grade. She said enjoys teach the youngest students most of all because of their eagerness to learn.

"Teaching Kindergarten is great. Most students are in school for the first time allowing us to mold and shape their young minds. They absorb information like sponges and are eager to explore and learn as much as they can."

McDuff

She believes that learning can never be too much for all students and that it takes the entire school and the whole community to teach a child.

Teacher Aide of the Year

Rufina Seman is the SVES 2009 Teacher Aide of the Year. She began her teaching career nearly 30 years ago at the Maristella Elementary School in Palau. She flew to this beautiful island of Saipan in 1980 and worked as a teacher at Mount Carmel Catholic School where she taught for 13 years.

In 1993, she was transferred to the Public School System and worked with the Early Childhood Program. In 1997, she continued her teaching career at San Vicente Elementary School, where she is still one of the most dependable employees.

"I have been through a lot of challenges in my career, whether being a Master Teacher, a Teacher Aide or a Substitute Teacher. My goals are to reach out to the children of all ages, and teach them all the academics that they may seek and to enhance their true knowledge in education and their success in their future," said Seman.

At San Vicente, Seman ensures that the children are safe and she provides them with all the assistance that they need. In addition to her regular schedule, she volunteers her Saturday's to assist students who take part of the reading program.

Spending extra time on campus is nothing new to Seman. Even during regular school days, she routinely stays beyond school hours to supervise students who have not been picked up by their parents.

"I wholeheartedly assist my colleagues who are in need in any way in order to provide a better education for the students. I dedicate my time and effort to the students and to the staff of San Vicente Elementary School."

Support Staff of the Year

Marsha Arriola, the SVES Support Staff of the Year, has been working at San Vicente School for 22 years. After getting her start as a pre-school teacher in California, Arriola home to the CNMI for two years at Sister Remedios.

"My accomplishments and where I'm at now didn't happen over night. I got where I am through patience, hard work, perseverance, dedication and prayer."

Arriola is a Highly Qualified Teacher and a Highly Qualified Counselor with two degrees; a bachelor's degree in Elementary Ed/Early Childhood and a master's degree in Counseling.

For the past seven years Arriola has been a School Guidance Counselor, but she said her duties far exceed that of her job title.

"I wear so many different hats and I do so many different things working in a school setting. There's never a dull moment throughout the day and so each day I'm pretty busy," she said.

Overall, she loves working with children, she comes to work daily, she is dependable, and flexible on the job. Her passion is to be with children, to be a helper, and to support the teachers, staff, and the administration in making the school a place where children can learn, be happy, and be successful.

"I put my best foot forward, think positive, and try to tackle the job that I am challenged to do," said Arriola.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

OES PTSA meeting next week

The PTSA officers of Oleai Elementary School would like to inform the parents and guardians of Oleai Elementary School students that there will be a PTSA meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2008 6:15pm in the school cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to attend. ***(PR)***

NMC English placement tests

The Northern Marianas College will be conducting an English placement test on the following days:

Dec. 10	5pm - 8pm	RoomD-1
Dec. 11	9am - 12pm	Room D-1
Jan. 8	5pm - 8pm	Room D-1
Jan. 9	1pm - 4pm	Room D-1
Jan. 14	9am - 12pm	Room A-6

No admittance to the testing room will be allowed after the starting time.

Those who wish to take the test must bring a valid photo ID (driver's license, passport or school ID) and pencils.

There is a $25 fee for the English Placement Test that must be paid in advance at NMC's Finance Office (Monday to Friday, 9am - 4pm). Students will not be admitted to the testing room without proof of payment (a receipt for either the placement test fee or the NMC application fee). Payment for the application fee will cover the English placement test fee.

If you have any questions, call Mark Haag at the Languages & Humanities Dept. at (670) 234-5498 ext. 1733 or 1212. ***(NMC)***

STUDENT WINNERS

The following are ChaCha Ocean View Jr. High School student winners from last Saturday's Math Court Competition held at the San Vicente Elementary School. Teachers, staff, parents, and administration are proud of the students' accomplishments.

6th grade

(Geometry and Measurement)
Reyes, Paolo 2nd place
Palacios, Sharon 3rd place
Ermitanio, Jaydene 3rd place

(Data, Statistics and probability)
Ermitanio, Jaydene 3rd place

7th grade

(Geometry and Measurement)
Torres, Irene 1st place

(Data, Statistics and probability)
Torres, Irene 5th place
Jebehn, Dorothy 5th place

8th grade

(Geometry and Measurement)
Yu, Peng Fei 3rd place
Halstead, Anzuko 3rd place

Kids are his customers, parents his clients

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As the principal of Dandan Elementary School for the last eight years, Jonas Barcinas has worked with hundreds of staff and faculty members and thousands of students. Here he answers some questions.

Question: What is your background?

Answer: I've been teaching for 10 years. I was nominated for teacher of the year in 1993, but I gave it away to a colleague. I have a master's degree and am working toward my doctorate degree. In 1995, I joined the military. I've been a professional volleyball player. I'm a cultural dancer. In 2000, I became the first principal of Dandan Elementary.

Q: What's the best thing about being a principal?

A: To be able to be given the opportunity to make an impact within the community, with the children, with the staff, and also upgrading the school campus, the facility, the instructional material. If I can offer all that and be able to provide a safe and orderly campus, high standard performance will continue. Right now I feel everything's perfect, but if the students or staff see deficiencies, I tell them, 'let me know.'

Q: What's the hardest part about being a principal?

A: I've had staff that is headstrong. I've had staff that is more senior that me. When it comes to discipline, I have to say, it doesn't matter what your age is, we are here as workers, as colleagues, as employees. So I'm going to take that route, but at the same time not forget respect. I always remember to please elders and we're professionals.

Barcinas

So if I'm disciplining you all the time about your attendance or not turning in your reports, then you probably need to find another job.

Q: What's a typical day like for you?

A: I stay here very late every day. Seven eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve. During the day, it's very hard to finish my work. During the day children are coming in. Children are my customers. The parents and the community are my clients. Then when I'm done I start going back to my work. Then when my staff have left happily and content, then I start my work right after school when everyone is gone, I sit here and I work all the way until, I look at the time and sometimes it's 12 or 1.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

EDUCATION DAY

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial poses with education officials and teachers in the Commonwealth during the proclamation signing for Education Day on Oct. 31, 2008. The Commonwealth will celebrate Education Day on Nov. 26, 2008, during which the Public School System will recognize the Teacher of the Year, the Teacher Aide of the Year, and the Support Staff of the Year.

Life & Style

For Hathaway, a year of rewards and regrets

By CHRIS LEE
(C) 2008, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Anne Hathaway portrays a recovering addict-alcoholic named Kym, who checks out of rehab to attend her sister's wedding in "Rachel Getting Married."

LOS ANGELES TIMES

> *I don't expect all this to last—the good, the bad, the scrutiny. It's just a moment. I'm not going to hold on too tight in any respect.*

HOLLYWOOD—Anne Hathaway seemed immensely proud of herself but also reluctant, initially, to make too big a deal of her experience filming the family dramedy "Rachel Getting Married." The loosely staged movie—which follows a New England family over the course of an emotionally wrought weekend of nuptial revelry—came out in October and has been generating the earliest of early Oscar buzz for Hathaway ever since.

Seated in the garden patio of a Beverly Hills hotel, the former 'tween icon spoke self-deprecatingly of her "great, spooky, unspoken" connection with "Rachel" director Jonathan Demme. She also detailed how staying in character throughout the shoot was "liberating" because it enabled her to concentrate on nothing other than being in the moment. And at one point, Hathaway chided herself for "sounding a little crazy" to take it all so seriously.

But once she got started discussing what she had learned about herself while inhabiting the role—a recovering addict-alcoholic named Kym who checks out of rehab to attend her sister's wedding, arriving with no small amount of psychological baggage—the 25-year-old actress (whose early image as a wholesome ingenue was cemented with two "Princess Diaries" films) could barely curb her enthusiasm.

"I've done films where I hung my head in shame about my work," Hathaway said. "But this was an entirely satisfying experience. The experience I imagined as a child when I wanted to get into acting: total immersion in character, laser focus on it, going off with a tribe of artists to tell a story. It was a dream every step of the way."

She recalled the film's documentary-like shoot—specifically, the esprit de corps of its ensemble cast, a crazy quilt of rock stars and documentarians, slam poets and hip-hop pioneers. Hathaway looked casual in a pair of jeans, her hair pulled back in a ponytail and wearing no makeup. Relating how she was never sure when the camera was on or off of her, Hathaway began making her points with physical pantomime.

At one juncture in the conversation, she waved her index finger and pinkie around—heavy metal-style—shouting "Professional anarchy in film!" (the idea being that her willingness to play an "unlikable" character was akin to "punk rock"). And at another point, Hathaway mimicked an out-of-breath distance runner stooped by fatigue (this to illustrate Kym's weary wherewithal to carry on in the face of a family tragedy that her loved ones hold Kym explicitly responsible for, the literal bane of her existence). Then Hathaway grew teary.

To hear the actress tell it, "Rachel Getting Married" helped her grow up. "It was such a breakthrough for me in terms of my character, a breakthrough in terms of my acting," Hathaway exclaimed. "And then it became a breakthrough in terms of my life. It was a big thing!"

Suddenly deciding to put her exuberance in check, she added: "I don't want to deconstruct it too much. It's just growing up. As a woman, a person, as an artist. I feel like I'm looser now when it comes to acting."

But at a moment when the actress' critical notices have never been better, there is also a competing notion of Anne Hathaway: as a woman taken advantage of, hoodwinked by the rogue who stole her heart but also tried to make off with ill-gotten millions. Of course, as any celeb watcher knows, this is no movie.

In early spring, the actress ended her four-year relationship with Italian businessman Raffaello Follieri, a playboy whose avocation was living large; yacht travel and five-star hotels were the norm. But when things began to go sour for Follieri, Hathaway reportedly paid his rent to the tune of $37,000 a month. Just two weeks after the couple's breakup, he was arrested for posing as a representative for the Vatican convincing investors that the Catholic Church would sell them property at a discount.

Rumors percolated about Hathaway's possible complicity in the sting; was she involved? did she help set it up? And as the actress made her rounds to promote "Rachel Getting Married," she cringed and grimaced her way through the interviews as she was repeatedly grilled about the ordeal. (Late last month, Follieri was sentenced to 4 1/2 years in prison for wire fraud, conspiracy and money laundering.)

"I don't wish to talk about my personal life," Hathaway said. "But I talked about it before there was anything newsworthy to talk about. I set the precedent. And now, out of respect for the machine, I have to honor it."

She framed the surge of interest in her life around what her character experiences in "Rachel Getting Married." "The one thing I will say that is interesting to my specific situation is I'm playing a character who's coming home and everybody knows her `bidness.' And here I am promoting this movie and everyone knows my business. It's one of those moments where art imitates life."

Hathaway brushes off any serious discussion of her Oscar-worthiness.

"It's delightful and flattering," Hathaway said. "And then I think, 'My little brother just left for Oxford. Does he have a comforter?' He left two days ago and I'm freaking out. I'm really struggling with it. I'm always the one that leaves and it's not OK that my brother is. ... I'm going to cry, I'm so proud of him."

She paused, her eyes welling with tears. She seemed caught off guard by the emotion.

"I don't expect all this to last—the good, the bad, the scrutiny. It's just a moment. I'm not going to hold on too tight in any respect."

Jon Stewart, Lily Tomlin honor George Carlin

WASHINGTON (AP)—The late comedian George Carlin—famous for those "Seven Words You Can Never Say on TV"—was honored Monday with the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor, the only award he saw as a legitimate comedy prize.

Jon Stewart, Lily Tomlin, Joan Rivers and others saluted Carlin at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts for inspiring their own comedy, and they took up his cause of pushing the boundaries of free speech.

AP

Comedian Jon Stewart arrives for the 11th Annual Mark Twain Prize for Humor, honoring the late George Carlin, at the Kennedy Center in Washington on Monday, Nov. 10, 2008.

"His comedy wasn't just joke, joke, joke," Tomlin said. Like Twain, "his performances were often like essays."

On the red carpet before the show, Stewart said he was about 10 years old when Carlin's album "Class Clown" was released. Stewart said it made him the funniest kid at school until his friends also found Carlin's work.

"For all his antiestablishment cred, he was a working man. He punched in. He sat down and he wrote," Stewart said. "He respected what he did."

A handful of protesters gathered on Pennsylvania Avenue near the Kennedy Center, some holding signs saying "Carlin's Going to Hell."

The prize was announced shortly before Carlin died of heart failure in June at the age of 71. This is the first time in its 11 years that the award will be presented posthumously. The program will be aired later on PBS stations.

"He was thrilled," Carlin's daughter, Kelly Carlin McCall, told The Associated Press shortly before the award ceremony. "I think he represented a lot of what Mark Twain did for our country, not only being smart and funny but also being a sharp commentator."

The Twain Prize was instituted in 1998 and first given to comedian and actor Richard Pryor. Recent recipients have included Billy Crystal in 2007 and Steve Martin in 2005.

Carlin had great respect for the prize and its previous honorees, said Jerry Hamza, Carlin's longtime manager and best friend. Carlin "always flipped" over the comedy of Tomlin and Pryor, two previous recipients.

"He would have been humbly grateful," Hamza told The AP. "Also George, who throughout his career was perceived as an outsider or maverick, had a real desire to connect with other comedians. He loved being in that club."

Garry Shandling recalled that Carliln generously agreed to read his comedic writing when Shandling was an 18-year-old engineering student at the University of Arizona.

"I think you're funny," Shandling recalled Carlin telling him. "I think you're green, but I think you can do it."

"You understand, that changes your life," Shandling said.

Carlin's career as a comedian, actor and author spanned more than 50 years. He was paired for a brief time with longtime friend Jack Burns, then went solo in 1962, growing his hair long and embracing the counterculture movement of the era.

He would record 23 comedy albums, win four Grammys, serve as the first host of "Saturday Night Live" and make more than a dozen TV specials for HBO.

His "Seven Words" routine was arguably his most famous. It was the subject of a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on free speech that upheld the government's right to sanction broadcasters who air offensive language when children might be listening.

Carlin remained active right up until his death, and his 14th and final HBO special, "It's Bad For Ya," in which he mocks death, is scheduled for release on DVD on Nov. 25. His 1984 album, "Carlin on Campus," was rereleased earlier this month.

When her father died, McCall said, he left behind an uncompleted autobiography. It is scheduled to be published next year, with herself, Carlin's brother, Patrick, and others filling in the parts he didn't get to finish.

Though Carlin said he didn't vote in presidential elections, he was a keen political observer and commentator.

"On certain things you'd call him a lefty," Hamza said. "On other things, you'd be surprised how conservative he might be ... He was all for the (Iraq) war until he found out the basis was false."

Man questioned in Hudson case to stay in prison

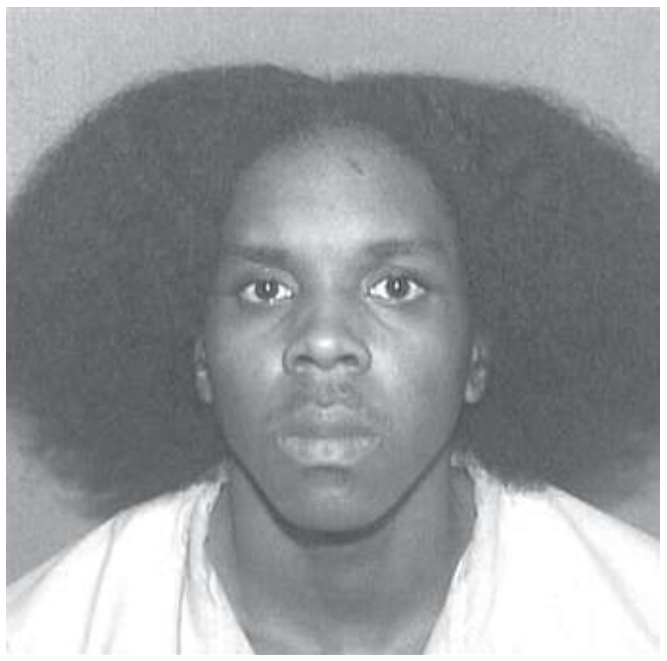
JOLIET, Ill. (AP)—A parole review official on Monday refused to release the convicted felon questioned in the killings of Jennifer Hudson's mother, brother and nephew, after a witness reported seeing him with a gun similar to the one used in the slayings.

A 35-minute hearing ended with a decision that there is probable cause to believe that William Balfour, Hudson's estranged brother-in-law, violated parole and should be held until a Dec. 3 hearing before the full Illinois Prisoner Review Board.

Balfour has been questioned, but not charged, in the killings. Authorities have called him a "person of interest."

During Monday's hearing by a member of the review board, Balfour denied any involvement in the crime, including the allegations that he had been seen with a gun.

"He seemed to be disturbed. He contested those allegations" about the gun, Board Chairman Jorge Montes said after the hearing. "He was protesting the introduction of that evidence and he denied it."



AP

This undated photo provided by the Illinois Department of Corrections shows William Balfour.

Balfour, 27, has been in custody since the day the bodies of Hudson's mother and brother were discovered at the family's Chicago home. After 48 hours—the longest Chicago police can hold anyone without charges—he was taken by the Illinois Department of Corrections on a parole violation.

Balfour—the estranged husband of Jennifer Hudson's older sister, Julia Hudson—served seven years for a 1999 attempted murder and vehicular hijacking conviction.

Jeanetta Cardine, an executive with the prisoner review board, was told during Monday's hearing that a woman described as Balfour's current or former girlfriend has told investigators she saw him with a gun matching the description of the .45-caliber weapon used in the three killings.

While Cardine found probable cause to believe Balfour violated other conditions of his parole, including failing to get anger management and substance abuse counseling, Montes said the gun allegation alone was enough to keep the man in custody.

"That's a very serious allegation," Montes said. "If somebody's alleging they saw him with a gun that was used in the murder of three individuals, we would definitely hold" him.

Montes said the information about the woman's statements came from the Cook County State's Attorney's office.

Representatives of the state's attorney's office and the police department declined to comment.

The bodies of 57-year-old Darnell Donerson and 29-year-old Jason Hudson were discovered Oct. 24 at the family's home. Three days later, 7-year-old Julian King's body was found in a sport utility vehicle on the city's West Side.

Officers found the gun in a vacant lot in the neighborhood where Julian's body was found.

Balfour did not have an attorney at Monday's hearing; the Cook County Public Defender's office said he has not been assigned one because he hasn't been charged with a crime.

Confusion at 'Dallas' reunion rankles fans

DALLAS (AP)—Who saw J.R.?

A weekend event organized to celebrate the 30th anniversary of "Dallas" has created a drama worthy of the Ewing family itself after angry fans complained they didn't get the access to cast members they'd ponied up for—while others got close to the stars without paying for the privilege.

It happened in part because hundreds more people than expected showed up for Saturday night's barbecue and cast reunion at the famed Southfork Ranch. The event's organizers are blaming Southfork for allowing gatecrashers; a ranch official places the blame on the organizers.

"It was a huge letdown—totally not worth it. I do feel like I got really ripped off," Elizabeth Knight, who paid $400 in anticipation of getting access to the cast, told Dallas-Fort Worth television station WFAA.

"It was a disaster. It was total chaos," Mickey James, who paid $500 in anticipation of getting to mingle with the cast, told The Associated Press. "We couldn't even get close to the stage."

"I'm angry," the 50-year-old Irving man said. "It was like a slap in the face."

Fans had paid anywhere from $100 to $1,000 for tickets, with those who paid higher prices to gain greater access to Larry Hagman, Linda Gray, Patrick Duffy and others.

Jason Hardison, the event's executive producer, said instead of the 2,000 people expected, 4,000 showed up to celebrate one of the most popular prime-time soap operas in TV history. Viewed panoramically in the show's introduction, the ranch is in the Dallas suburb of Parker, about 25 miles north of downtown Dallas.

"I'm brokenhearted about what happened and I feel like the fans were cheated out of what was promised to them," he said. "I felt like the beautiful party that was promised and planned was completely stolen by just a blatant lack of competence on the part of the property owners."

But an official with the management company that runs Southfork said it only provided off-duty police officers in the area where alcohol was served—anything beyond that was the responsibility of organizers.

Hardison was in charge of the event and would have been in charge of the rest of the security, including the gates, said Darla Cook, vice president of public relations of Arizona-based Forever Resorts.

Cook disputed Hardison's crowd estimate as well, saying there were only between 1,500 to 2,000 people in attendance. She said it likely felt like more because Hardison's staff was not controlling what areas of the event fans were able to access.

"I'm working on how they (the fans) can be reimbursed," Hardison said. "I'm working on how I can make this up to the fans. They deserve that. They did not deserve this disappointment."

But Joy Garcia said it worked out well for her.

"We were extremely happy that we were in the $100 section because we got the same access that everyone else did," she said.

Beyonce on offers for wedding pics: 'Ridiculous!'

NEW YORK (AP)—Beyonce insists she would have never considered selling photos of her hush-hush wedding to Jay-Z to a glossy celebrity magazine. Still, the singer acknowledges that she was amazed at the amount of money that was offered.

"Now, they offer crazy money that's just ridiculous," she said in a recent interview, laughing. "But in the end, absolutely not. It's so not worth it. If anything, if you wanna put something out, then put it out, not for (money)."

Beyonce and Jay-Z were married in April in an intimate ceremony in New York City.

"We worked really hard at keeping it private," she said. "I've always been this way, and he's always been this way, so that's why we complement each other. We always knew that it would be private and quiet, for all the right reasons."

Though Beyonce declined to talk about specific details, she's been more open to acknowledging her relationship in recent interviews after years of silence about it.

She's due to release her new CD, "IAM ... SASHA FIERCE," on Nov. 18. MySpace Music is giving listeners worldwide the first official preview of the CD on its Web site starting 3 a.m. EST Tuesday. The 27-year-old singer joins the list of other musicians who provide fans with an online preview of the CD in the days before its release.

American singer Beyonce receives the award for outstanding contribution to the arts during the 2008 World Music Awards ceremony in Monaco, Sunday Nov. 9, 2008.

AP

4 more years for MSNBC's Keith Olbermann

NEW YORK (AP)—Barack Obama, the presidential candidate Keith Olbermann championed this fall, just won a four-year term. So, too, has Olbermann.

MSNBC announced Monday that Olbermann, its headlining prime-time star, has signed on to continue hosting "Countdown" each weeknight at 8 o'clock EST. MSNBC essentially tore up an existing contract Olbermann had, adding a year and a half and more money. (Exact terms of the deal were not disclosed.)

It's also four more years of cable television's most sizzling rivalry. Fox News Channel said last month that Bill O'Reilly, whose show airs opposite Olbermann's, had also agreed to a new four-year contract.

Olbermann's fans made him a folk hero during the campaign for his sharp-tongued criticism of John McCain and President Bush. The size of his audience has more than doubled, from an average of 776,000 in October 2007 to nearly 2.2 million this October, according to Nielsen Media Research. O'Reilly's audience hovered around 4 million a night in October 2008. (But the two were much more competitive among the 25-to-54 age demographic; Olbermann beat his rival seven nights in October in that category.)

MSNBC has built its prime time in Olbermann's image, hiring Rachel Maddow—a frequent Olbermann guest—for a successful 9 p.m. show. (Olbermann's telecast is repeated each weeknight at 10.)

MSNBC said Olbermann will continue to play a major role in coverage of big news events. MSNBC installed him as a co-anchor with Chris Matthews during the primary campaign, but later switched him to a commentator role.

'Madagascar' sequel leads pack with $63.1M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa" created a box-office stampede as the animated comedy about zoo animals in the wild took in $63.1 million over opening weekend.

The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by Media By Numbers LLC:

1. "**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa**," Paramount, $63,106,589, 4,056 locations, $15,559 average, $63,106,589, one week.
2. "**Role Models**," Universal, $19,167,085, 2,792 locations, $6,865 average, $19,167,085, one week.
3. "**High School Musical 3: Senior Year**," Disney, $9,159,523, 3,464 locations, $2,644 average, $75,573,993, three weeks.
4. "**Changeling**," Universal, $7,252,940, 1,855 locations, $3,910 average, $20,559,497, three weeks.
5. "**Zack and Miri Make a Porno**," Weinstein Co., $6,274,530, 2,735 locations, $2,294 average, $20,686,907, two weeks.
6. "**Soul Men**," MGM, $5,401,615, 2,044 locations, $2,643 average, $5,401,615, one week.
7. "**Saw V**," Lionsgate, $4,067,071, 2,829 locations, $1,438 average, $52,187,337, three weeks.
8. "**The Haunting of Molly Hartley**," Freestyle Releasing, $3,318,694, 2,576 locations, $1,288 average, $10,063,348, two weeks.
9. "**The Secret Life of Bees**," Fox Searchlight, $3,089,467, 1,481 locations, $2,086 average, $29,902,363, four weeks.
10. "**Eagle Eye**," Paramount, $2,541,602, 1,407 locations, $1,806 average, $96,348,829, seven weeks.
11. "**Beverly Hills Chihuahua**," Disney, $2,518,049, 2,359 locations, $1,067 average, $88,258,841, six weeks.
12. "**Max Payne**," Fox, $1,789,136, 1,476 locations, $1,212 average, $38,653,498, four weeks.
13. "**Fireproof,**" Samuel Goldwyn, $1,585,555, 872 locations, $1,818 average, $28,327,659, seven weeks.
14. "**Body of Lies**," Warner Bros., $1,537,219, 850 locations, $1,808 average, $36,950,974, five weeks.
15. "**Rachel Getting Married,**" Sony Pictures Classics, $1,505,507, 391 locations, $3,850 average, $5,415,820, six weeks.
16. "**Pride and Glory**," Warner Bros., $1,293,389, 1,340 locations, $965 average, $14,381,710, three weeks.
17. "**W.**," Lionsgate, $1,120,600, 839 locations, $1,336 average, $24,231,628, four weeks.
18. "**RocknRolla**," Warner Bros., $1,047,334, 526 locations, $1,991 average, $4,373,979, five weeks.
19. "**Appaloosa**," Warner Bros., $668,415, 735 locations, $909 average, $18,658,697, eight weeks.
20. "**Religulous**," Lionsgate, $423,273, 274 locations, $1,545 average, $12,125,806, six weeks.

AP

Joshua Jackson, left, Carrie Ann Inaba, Jay Mohr, second right, and Paula Marshall, right, pose before the announcement of the nominations for the 35th Annual People's Choice Awards, in Beverly Hills, Calif., Monday, Nov. 10, 2008. The show will be held on Jan. 7, at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.

Heroes dominate People's Choice nominees

LOS ANGELES (AP)—How heroic. "Iron Man" will battle "The Dark Knight" and "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull" for favorite movie at the 35th annual People's Choice Awards.

"CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," "Grey's Anatomy" and "House" are nominated for favorite TV drama and "Two and a Half Men," "Ugly Betty" and "Samantha Who?" are nominated for favorite TV comedy.

Queen Latifah will host the viewer-voted awards show, to air live Jan. 7 from the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. Awards will be presented in over 40 categories, including favorite new TV drama, talk-show host, rock song, on-screen matchup and leading lady.

New categories include favorite superhero, TV drama diva and movie cast.

Nominees also include Christian Bale, Brad Pitt and Mark Wahlberg for favorite leading man; Anne Hathaway, Kate Hudson and Queen Latifah for favorite leading lady; Steve Carell, Jim Carrey and Adam Sandler for favorite funny male star; and Ellen DeGeneres, Tina Fey and Whoopi Goldberg for favorite funny female star.

Attorneys want James Brown trustees out

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP)—Attorneys pushing a long-awaited settlement over how to parcel out James Brown's estate and trust want the trustees removed, claiming they've done little to protect the singer's legacy and money.

Court-appointed trustees Adele Pope and Robert Buchanan, who are attorneys in South Carolina, should be replaced by someone with the legal and accounting expertise needed to deal with the complex estate, Louis Levensen, an attorney for some of Brown's adult children, said Monday. Levensen and other attorneys involved in the dispute over Brown's estate claim it has taken too long to resolve, and want the current trustees out.

A proposed settlement of Brown's estate would give 50 percent to his charitable trust to educate the singer's grandchildren and needy students in Georgia and South Carolina; 25 percent to a woman who claims to be Brown's surviving spouse and the mother of his child; and 25 percent to some of Brown's adult children. All parties with a stake in the settlement support the motion calling for the trustees' removal.

Attorneys had hoped to announce the settlement details last month. Instead, several debtors testified in court they are owed money from the estate.

Brown died Christmas Day 2006, igniting a whirlwind of public feuds and litigation. The value of Brown's estate and trustee are still unknown.

Some of the soul singer's possessions were auctioned in July for $850,000, partly to pay debt. Attorneys have said the soul singer's accounts have little money in them. The future income—from movies, royalties and the sale of Brown's likeness—is what's really at stake, attorneys have said.

"Our goal is to accomplish the estate plan as modified by the settlement agreement and we need to do that," Levensen said. "Anyone who stands in the way of that needs to get out of the way."

Calls to Pope's and Buchanan's offices, and their attorney, were not immediately returned Monday. The two were initially hired as special administrators to help settle the estate and were appointed trustees a year ago to oversee Brown's estate and trust, but have failed to provide an adequate inventory and appraise Brown's possessions, and based a federal estate tax return on unreliable information, according to court documents.

An attorney for Tomi Rae Hynie, who claims to be Brown's surviving spouse and the mother of one of his children, claims the trustees have been distracted by a lawsuit against them involving one of Brown's grandchildren.

Britney's youngest son hospitalized

NEW YORK (AP)—The youngest son of Britney Spears and Kevin Federline has been hospitalized for some kind of reaction but was expected to be discharged soon.

Two-year-old Jayden James was admitted to the Southwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center on Sunday after having "a reaction to something he ingested," a representative for Spears' family said in a statement.

He is expected to be discharged on Tuesday, the statement said, signing off with "Get well soon, Jayden!"

The hospital is near Spears' home in Kentwood, La., where she was reportedly staying with family. Representatives for Spears and her family didn't immediately return messages left Monday.

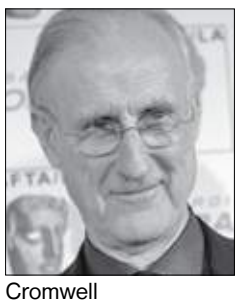
Spears and ex-husband Federline are also parents to 3-year-old Sean Preston.

AP

In this July 16, 2001 file photo, director Joe Johnston arrives at the world premiere of the movie "Jurassic Park III," in Los Angeles.

Cromwell hospitalized after cycling accident

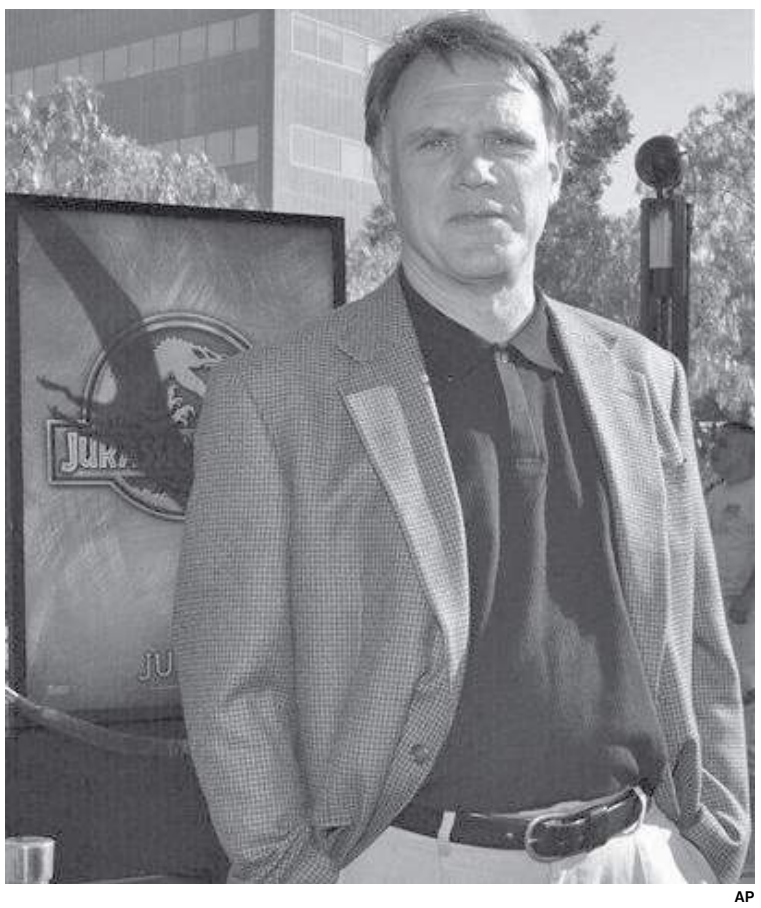
LOS ANGELES (AP)—James Cromwell was injured in a fall from his bicycle over the weekend and was expected to be released from a hospital Monday, his publicist said. Cromwell, 68, suffered a broken collarbone and a partially deflated lung, according to a statement released Monday by publicist Nancy Seltzer.



Cromwell

She said Cromwell is a serious cyclist who was training on a Los Angeles-area canyon road Sunday when he fell from the bike.

Cromwell starred in the "Babe" movies and recently portrayed the first President Bush in "W." Seltzer said Cromwell would be well enough to complete his work schedule on the new TV drama "My Own Worst Enemy."



AP

In this July 16, 2001 file photo, director Joe Johnston arrives at the world premiere of the movie "Jurassic Park III," in Los Angeles.

'Jumanji' director Johnston does 'Captain America'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Captain America has a new boss.

Joe Johnston, whose credits include "Jurassic Park III" and "Jumanji," has been signed to direct the comic-book adaptation "The First Avenger: Captain America," Marvel Studios announced Monday.

The movie is scheduled for release May 6, 2011, the same weekend that Marvel scored a blockbuster this year with "Iron Man," starring Robert Downey Jr. "Iron Man 2" comes out May 7, 2010.

Distributed by Paramount Pictures, "Captain America" is based on the Marvel Comics character Steve Rogers, who volunteers for a research program that transforms him into a patriotic super-soldier. The lead role has not yet been cast.

Marvel also is teaming Captain America with Downey's Iron Man, the Incredible Hulk, Thor and other superheroes from the comic-book giant's vaults for "The Avengers," due in theaters July 15, 2011.

Johnston is directing "The Wolf Man," an update of the horror classic starring Benicio Del Toro and Anthony Hopkins that comes out in 2009. His other credits include "Honey, I Shrunk the Kids," "The Rocketeer" and "October Sky."

Return of 'Lost' gets all of prime time Jan. 21

NEW YORK (AP)—ABC will devote all of prime time Jan. 21 to the return of "Lost," showing two one-hour episodes preceded by a synopsis to update viewers on the story, the network said Monday.

The drama was last seen on its finale on May 29, an action-packed episode with an exploded freighter, a stabbing and a boat rescue.

The show will air regularly 9 p.m. on Wednesdays. ABC said it will make an announcement shortly on where "Private Practice" will be scheduled.

The "Lost" clip show, a format its producers have used to keep viewers up-to-date on the complicated story, will air at 8 p.m. EST on Jan. 21. The first hour begins at 9 p.m.

Tim McGraw to host 'Saturday Night Live'

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Live from New York! It's Tim McGraw.

His spokeswoman, Jessie Schmidt, says McGraw will host NBC's "Saturday Night Live" on November 22, joining a short list of country stars, including Garth Brooks, Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson and Dolly Parton, to host the show.

McGraw's hits include "Live Like You Were Dying," "Where the Green Grass Grows" and his latest, "Let It Go."

He co-stars with Vince Vaughn and Reese Witherspoon in the upcoming holiday movie "Four Christmases," due out later this month.

AP

This June 6, 2008 file photo shows country music singer Tim McGraw applauding after performing at the annual Wal Mart shareholder's meeting in Fayetteville, Ark.

Knowing a few simple tricks eases a letter writer's chore

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I read about your booklet "How to Write Letters for All Occasions" a few years ago, and I want to let you know how much it helped me recently in writing to my aunt.

You see, my aunt's beloved cat, "Mouser," passed away. Although I didn't know Mouser very well, I did know how much her cat meant to her.

Knowing how much she was hurting, I felt I had to say something—but what? Then I remembered that your booklet had a section on how to write a condolence letter.

You said: "When writing a condolence letter ... if you come up with a specific memory that you have cherished, relate it. Believe it or not, a humorous incident will be appreciated."

So I sent my aunt a funny incident I remembered about Mouser. She wrote me back a month later thanking me for "moving her thoughts from a very sad place and making her smile." She said my story made her remember other antics she hadn't thought of in a long time.

I know I'm not the only person who has trouble putting feelings down on paper. Please mention your booklet again so your readers will know this invaluable resource is available.

GRATEFUL READER IN N.Y.

DEAR GRATEFUL READER: Thank you for your sweet note. I'm pleased my booklet was helpful to you. Not everyone can write letters that are literary masterpieces, but anyone can acknowledge a gift, express sympathy as you did, and accept (or decline) an invitation—and do it properly—by following a few basic "rules."

While letter writing may always be a chore to some people, there are occasions when the written message is the only proper means of communication. My booklet contains sample letters for almost any occasion, which may be used as patterns from which to write your own letters.

It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus a check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds), to Dear Abby—Letters Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

For anyone who has ever wondered how to begin to compose a charming thank-you note, a letter expressing warm congratulations, a love letter or the opposite—announce a broken engagement—"How to Write Letters for All Occasions" will serve as a guide for those who put off writing because they don't know what to say, how to say it or even how to begin.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My ex-husband and his live-in, pregnant girlfriend asked me to help them decorate their soon-to-be new house. (Their affair is what ended our marriage.) They both have commented on what good taste I have and how they like my decorating style. They have even offered to pay for my services.

Abby, is this too weird or what?

STUCK IN THE TWILIGHT ZONE

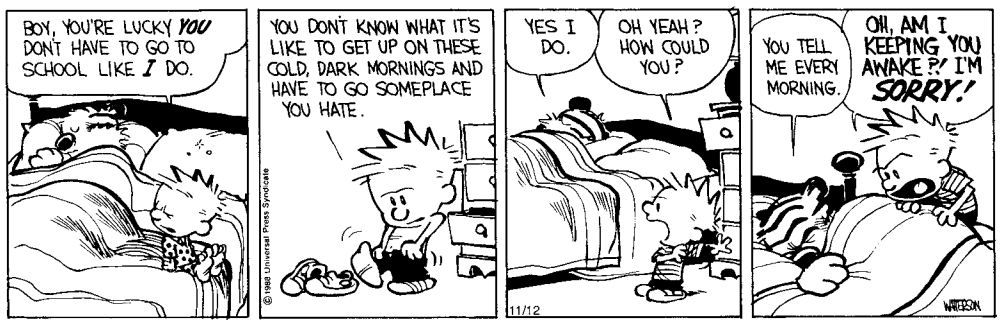
DEAR STUCK: I'm not sure I'd call it "weird" as much as I'd call it nervy and insensitive. My question is, how badly do you need the money?

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


BOY, YOU'RE LUCKY YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL LIKE I DO.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO GET UP ON THESE COLD, DARK MORNINGS AND HAVE TO GO SOMEPLACE YOU HATE.
YES I DO.
OH YEAH? HOW COULD YOU?
YOU TELL ME EVERY MORNING.
OH, AM I KEEPING YOU AWAKE?! I'M SORRY!
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11/12
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

DAD, I ASKED MY GIRLFRIEND, AND THOUGH SHE'S NEVER TRIED IT...
SHE THINKS SHE COULD PLUCK A CHICKEN IN ABOUT A HALF-HOUR
...DAD?
ARE YOU SURE SHE'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU, SON?
www.garfield.com
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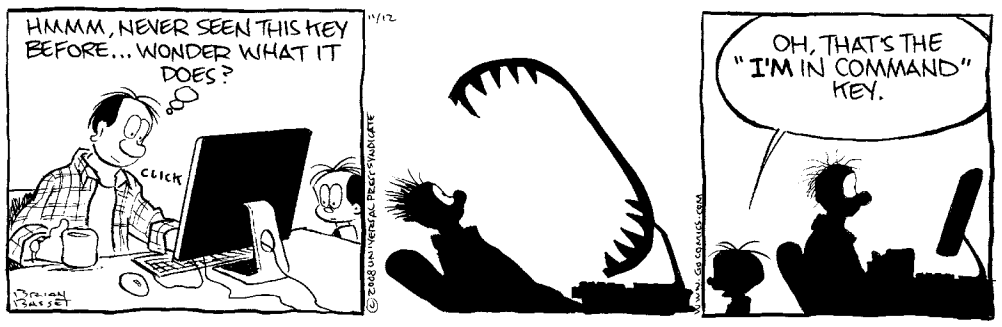
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


HMMM, NEVER SEEN THIS KEY BEFORE... WONDER WHAT IT DOES?
CLICK
11/12
OH, THAT'S THE "I'M IN COMMAND" KEY.
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The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHAT'S THE PROB?
MY CAR'S MAKING A FUNNY NOISE.
LIKE WHAT?
SORT OF A "BRUM-BRUM-BRUM-GRRACK-ACK-ACK."
THAT'S NOT THAT FUNNY.
LET ME TRY IT WITH A FRENCH ACCENT.
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CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

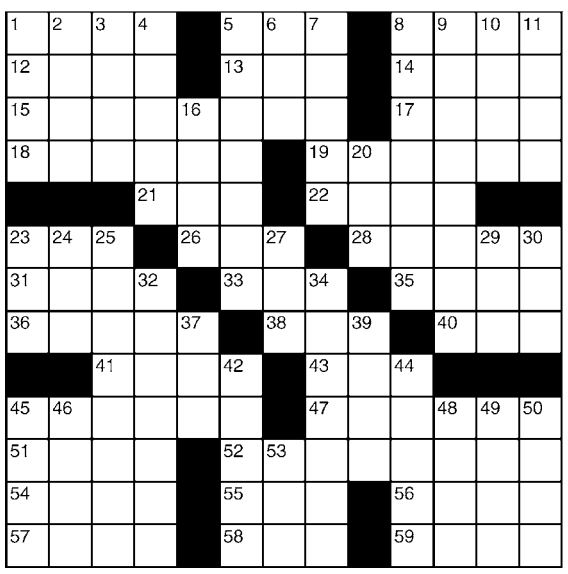
ACROSS
1 Secure place for valuables
5 Hair-salon application
8 Celeb
12 PC picture
13 Bullring bravo
14 You
15 Misled
17 Cupid's alias
18 Appeared to be
19 Show-biz skill
21 "Of course"
22 Unrivaled
23 Pretense
26 Cauldron
28 Suburbanites' pride
31 Wonka's creator
33 Japanese theater
35 Race-track boundary
36 Fat-shunning Jack
38 Boxer
40 "Yippee!"
41 Physical
43 Affirmative action?
45 Clyde's partner
47 Envisioned, in a way
51 Lotion additive
52 Grain machine
54 Frees (of)
55 "Norma —"
56 Gambling game
57 Santa's sackful
58 Antiquated
59 Pornography

DOWN
1 Perches
2 Rue the workout
3 Golfer's warning
4 Adversary
5 Mark of game-show fame
6 Sprite
7 Some turns
8 Outstanding
9 Trilateral
10 A billion years (Var.)
11 Whatever's left over
16 Sob
20 "You've got mail" co.
23 Billboards
24 Upper limit
25 Elegy
27 Surpass
29 Peeples or Vardalos
30 Crafty
32 Negligence
34 Ten times ten
37 Skater Babilonia
39 Cheney predecessor
42 Paris subway
44 Classroom array
45 Homer's son
46 Medley
48 Throat-clearing sound
49 Options list
50 Jog
53 "2001" computer

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	L	O	T	■	F	A	T	■	T	I	D	E
P	U	P	A	■	R	I	O	■	U	R	A	L
A	L	T	I	T	U	D	E	■	R	I	D	E
M	U	S	■	H	I	S	■	E	P	S	O	M
■	■	■	M	I	T	■	D	O	I	■	■	■
G	A	L	A	S	■	M	Y	S	T	E	R	Y
A	G	O	G	■	H	U	E	■	U	L	E	E
L	O	U	N	G	E	D	■	E	D	I	T	S
■	■	■	I	A	M	■	A	T	E	■	■	■
C	A	R	T	S	■	F	L	U	■	J	A	G
L	I	E	U	■	S	O	L	I	T	U	D	E
A	R	I	D	■	O	R	O	■	E	D	A	M
D	Y	N	E	■	S	K	Y	■	T	O	M	S

Yesterday's answer 11-12



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Omarion, 24; Ryan Gosling, 28; Sammy Sosa, 40; David Schwimmer, 42

Happy Birthday: You may be torn between personal and professional goals. It will be difficult to balance the things in your life and take advantage of the available opportunities. False impressions will be your downfall, so don't believe everything you hear. Emotional matters will escalate if not dealt with immediately. Precision, fair play, honor and integrity will lead to victory. Your numbers are 9, 13, 17, 20, 29, 38, 46

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't be fooled by someone wanting to borrow from you. Keep your money and your possessions in a safe place. Tidy up any loose ends, especially if other people have access to your stuff. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You will have trouble making up your mind. Don't make the mistake of listening to someone who has no interest in helping you. Change is the only way you will be able to stay on top. Use your knowledge, charm and past experience. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Keep a watchful eye on what others are doing, especially in the workforce. Uncertainty and change are likely to affect your status quo. Too little, too late will be the result if you don't act fast and secure your position. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You can fool everyone by making unexpected changes regarding work, your interests and your friendships. It's time to set the record straight and lay down the law. Open up about the way you feel and what you plan to do. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Avoid encouraging change. Confusion, deception and false information are all apparent. Give your undivided attention to the rules and regulations that must be followed. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Follow through with your plans, regardless of what others do. A jaunt to a place you enjoy will help you realize what's really important. Serious talks with someone you love will help resolve issues that are bothering you. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't push your luck with someone who may pose a problem for you. Money matters will not be as you think and a quick look at your assets and bank balances will help you put things in perspective. Avoid unnecessary purchases. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Keep moving and don't look back. Time is of the essence and you must take advantage of every opportunity or proposal that passes your way. Don't procrastinate—you have so much to gain and nothing to lose. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Everything will matter—from what you say, to what you do, to how you react toward others. Don't think that you can get away with breaking rules or taking shortcuts. Someone will be watching your every move. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): This is a great day to masterfully manipulate situations in your favor and get others to do the work for you. A couple of changes made to your residence will make a big difference both financially and emotionally. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't let anyone talk you into doing something that you shouldn't be doing. Cut off old friends who could lead you in the wrong direction. You've come too far to give in to temptation. Don't take a foolish risk. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): There is no need to impress or preach your message. Love is in the picture and, with a little good will on your part, stability will help you secure your dreams, hopes and wishes. There is money heading your way from a most unexpected source. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You have drive, discipline and the desire to reach your life goals. You are strong, engaging and charming. You have stamina and you take action.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

					4	7		
				2			8	
				6			2	1
	4	9			6	3		
6			2	3	5		9	
5							6	
	2						4	
		7	3	8	2	9		
			9		7			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/12

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	3	7	4	8	6	2	5	1
6	8	5	1	2	7	9	3	4
4	1	2	9	5	3	8	6	7
2	5	1	6	7	9	4	8	3
7	9	3	2	4	8	6	1	5
8	4	6	3	1	5	7	9	2
5	6	8	7	3	4	1	2	9
1	7	9	5	6	2	3	4	8
3	2	4	8	9	1	5	7	6

Difficulty Level ★★ 11/11

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS **Solution: 9 letters**

M	N	O	I	T	U	A	C	L	D	D	R	U	M	S
E	T	O	D	W	A	T	E	R	E	E	K	C	U	S
A	Y	N	I	E	S	P	O	T	A	N	(N)	(O)	(E)	(N)
S	T	G	A	T	X	P	R	O	C	E	D	U	R	E
U	A	M	O	L	A	O	H	S	A	R	T	U	T	U
R	P	R	O	L	P	L	B	S	A	G	B	S	V	L
E	E	N	A	S	O	C	U	Z	U	Y	U	T	A	C
S	D	M	N	H	P	N	A	G	B	R	M	I	P	E
D	P	A	O	F	I	H	H	R	E	A	C	N	O	L
S	R	M	E	T	A	L	E	C	E	R	L	U	R	B
T	E	N	O	I	T	A	V	R	E	S	N	O	C	M
N	T	P	I	C	K	L	T	M	E	T	S	A	W	E
E	A	S	E	F	A	S	M	V	A	C	U	U	M	S
P	E	E	K	P	H	O	S	P	H	O	R	O	U	S
S	R	E	C	Y	C	L	I	N	G	L	A	S	S	A

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Yesterday's Answer: England

Treasury 5 Send check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 postage and handling each ($14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Universal Press Syndicate, Attn: Wonderword, 4520 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111 or call toll-free, 1-800-255-6734, ext. 6688. Order online at upuzzles.com.

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Pro Se,

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Edward Litulumar Petitioner, vs. Zhao Xumei Respondent	)))))	FCD-DI Civil Action No. 07-0690 **SUMMONS**

To: Zhao Xumei

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within twenty (20) days after the service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver a copy of your answer to Edward Litulumar by service in person, as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court at Susupe, Saipan MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of the Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment of default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 4th day of December, 2007.

/s/ Clerk of Court

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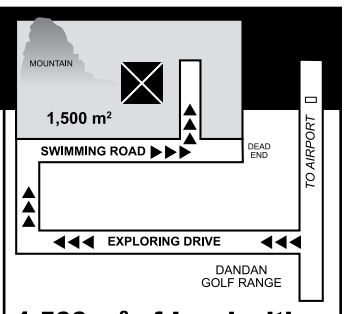

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WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2007
Guard files sex harassment suit vs principal. PAGE 3
2 hurt in Puerto Rico vehicular crash. PAGE 5
There is still hope for nonimmigrant
joins

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• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

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- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Dwyane Wade rallies Heat past Nets

MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade scored 19 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter, and the Miami Heat rallied from a 10-point deficit midway through the final quarter to beat the New Jersey Nets 99-94 on Monday night.

Michael Beasley scored 19 points and Daequan Cook added 15 for the Heat, who are 3-0 at home for the first time since the 1999-2000 season—and had to dig deep to get there, after the Nets seemed to have the game completely under control for much of the second half.

Yi Jianlian made a career-best five 3-pointers and finished with 24 points and 10 rebounds for the Nets, who got 22 points from Vince Carter. New Jersey led by 10 after Carter connected on a 3-pointer—one of 13 by the Nets—with 5:48 left, but got outscored 26-11 the rest of the way.

Carter's layup with 32.5 seconds left drew New Jersey within one, but Wade calmly made a 15-footer from the right side 9 seconds later, and the Heat held on from there.

Down by three, New Jersey had one more chance, but Carter was called from traveling with 6.7 seconds left - the Nets' 19th turnover - and the outcome was sealed. Chris Quinn went 6-for-6 from the line in the final seconds for Miami.

Former Heat guard Keyon Dooling scored 18 points for New Jersey, which also got 12 from Jarvis Hayes and 11 from Bobby Simmons.

Yi's 3-point barrage had to have caught Miami by surprise. Entering Monday, in his first 71 NBA appearances, Yi had never made more than two 3-pointers in a game.

He then made three in a 3 1/2-minute span of the third quarter alone.

Yi's newly found long-range game fueled a quick 16-5 burst by the Nets, who saw a one-point lead transformed into a 64-52 advantage with 3:31 left in the period. And after Carter connected on—what else?—another 3-pointer over Wade's outstretched arm with 5:48 left, the Nets had what seemed like a perfectly comfortable 83-73 lead.

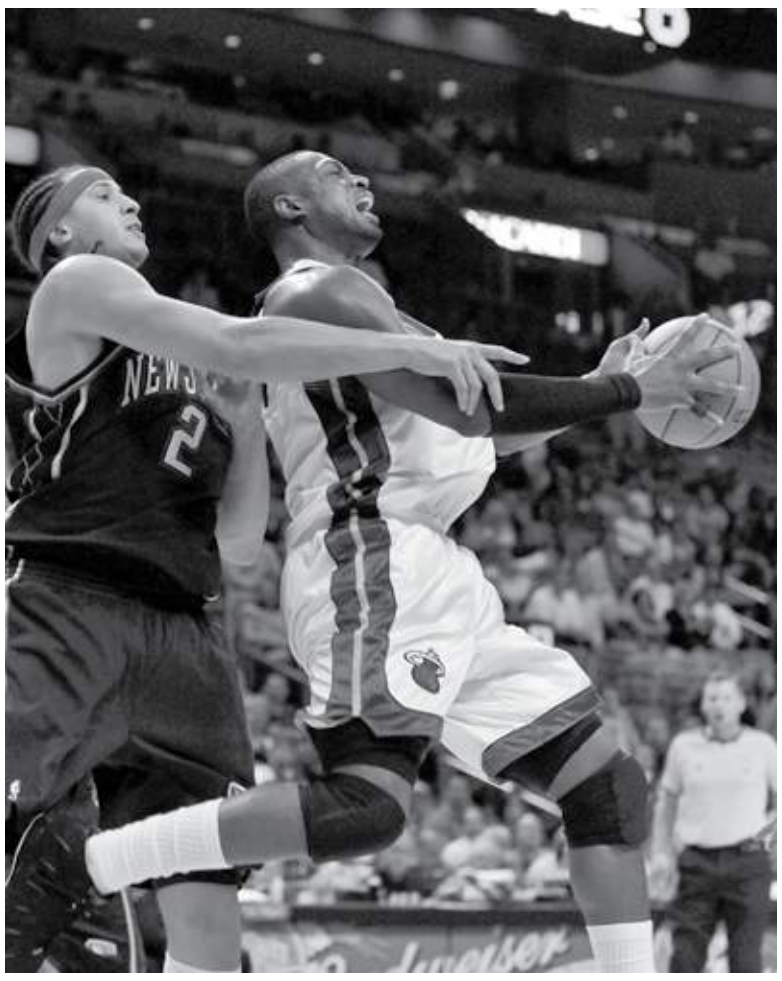
Someone forgot to tell Wade it was over.

He scored eight straight points in a 79-second span, starting with a 3-pointer that banked in off the glass and left him shaking his head in disbelief. A pair of free throws and another 3-pointer—this one swished—later, and the Heat were at 85-84 with 3:09 remaining.

After being on the other end of the Hack-a-Shaq for so long when Shaquille O'Neal was with Miami, the Heat went to the Hack-a-Boone and sent the Nets' notoriously bad foul-shooting Josh Boone to the line with 3:03 left, shortly after Boone airballed one from the stripe.

He made one of two, and when Cook drove the lane for a layup with 2:05 left, the game was tied at 86.

Wade made a pair of free throws with 1:07 left, giving Miami its first lead since the opening seconds of the second half, and the Heat never trailed again.



AP

Miami Heat guard Dwyane Wade (3) is fouled by New Jersey Nets center Josh Boone (2) during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game Monday, Nov. 10, 2008, in Miami.

Celtics 94, Raptors 87

At Boston, Paul Pierce scored 22 of his 36 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Boston Celtics to a comeback win over the Toronto Raptors.

Kevin Garnett added 21 points and 10 rebounds, and Ray Allen had 19 points for the Celtics (7-1). Boston scored 58 points in the second half after getting just 36 in the opening 24 minutes.

Jermaine O'Neal recovered from a rough night in Sunday's win over Charlotte, leading the Raptors (4-3) with 23 points and 11 rebounds. Anthony Parker scored 15 and Jason Kapono 14 for Toronto.

Trail Blazers 106, Magic 99

At Orlando, Florida, Brandon Roy scored 27 points to lead Portland to its first road win with a victory over Orlando.

Dwight Howard had 29 points and a season-high 19 rebounds and Hedo Turkoglu added 35 points for the Magic, who finished their homestand 4-1.

Trailing 73-72 entering the final period, Portland scored the first 11 points of the fourth quarter, fueled by two 3-pointers by Rudy Fernandez. He finished with 16 points.

Pacers 107, Thunder 99

At Indianapolis, T.J. Ford had 24 points and 10 assists to help Indiana beat Oklahoma.

Ford scored 11 points in the final period as Indiana (3-3) pulled away. Danny Granger added 20 points and seven rebounds for the Pacers, who won their second straight.

Kevin Durant led the Thunder (1-6) with 37 points and eight rebounds, but no other Oklahoma City player scored more than 14 points in the team's fourth consecutive loss.

Suns 107, Grizzlies 102

At Phoenix, Leandro Barbosa scored 16 of his team-high 27 points in the fourth quarter, including the go-ahead 3-pointer with 43.8 seconds left, and Phoenix withstood a furious fourth-quarter rally to beat Memphis.

The Grizzlies had rallied from a 17-point third-quarter deficit and led 102-100 on Rudy Gay's dunk off an offensive rebound with 1:30 remaining.

But Barbosa sank his second 3-pointer of the game to give Phoenix a 103-102 lead.

After a pair of Steve Nash free throws, Mayo missed a straightaway 3-pointer with 6.9 seconds to allow Phoenix to escape with its ninth straight win over Memphis.

Nuggets waive McDyess after Billups-Iverson trade

DENVER (AP)—The Nuggets waived Antonio McDyess on Monday one week after obtaining him from Detroit along with Chauncey Billups and Cheikh Samb for Allen Iverson.

The move was expected as Denver tries to cut costs. McDyess' agent, Andy Miller, had said the chances of him playing for the Nuggets were "very low to zero."

McDyess, who had two previous stints with Denver, hasn't appeared in any games for the Nuggets since the trade.

The Pistons would welcome McDyess back, but they cannot sign him for 30 days.

The 34-year-old forward has averaged 13.4 points and 7.7 rebounds per game in 12 seasons. He averaged seven points and four rebounds in two games for Detroit before the trade.

Besides the Nuggets and Pistons, he has played for the New York Knicks and Phoenix Suns.

MLB BRIEFS

Sources: Rockies likely to trade Holliday to A's

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—Star outfielder Matt Holliday appears headed to the Oakland Athletics in a surprising move for a franchise known more for shedding stars than adding them. Two people familiar with the proposed deal said Monday the A's and the Colorado Rockies have reached a tentative agreement. Both people spoke on condition of anonymity because the trade had not been finalized and details were still in the works. It was unclear whom Colorado would get for the two-time All-Star. One of the people said reliever Huston Street, lefty starter Greg Smith and outfielder Carlos Gonzalez were among the players who had been discussed in recent days. Holliday, MVP of the 2007 NL championship series, is due to make $13.5 million next season and then will be eligible to become a free agent. He was scheduled to have a physical Tuesday, one of the people said. The big-hitting left fielder unexpectedly dropped in on the general managers' meetings last week in Dana Point, Calif.

Padres withdraw offer to Trevor Hoffman

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The San Diego Padres withdrew their $4 million offer to Trevor Hoffman on Monday, leaving it unclear whether they would continue to negotiate with the career saves leader. General manager Kevin Towers said last week he was trying to work out an agreement to keep the closer, but he sent a text message to The Associated Press on Monday night confirming "our offer was withdrawn." Towers would not comment on whether the Padres are still interested in signing Hoffman. Hoffman's agent, Rick Thurman, did not immediately return a message seeking comment. Hoffman, a franchise icon who joined the Padres in 1993, earned $7.5 million last season. He has 554 career saves and a 2.78 ERA. He had 30 saves last season but posted a 3.77 ERA—his highest since 1995.

Longoria is AL Rookie of Year, Soto wins NL award

NEW YORK (AP)—The rookie races were all but over by July, when Evan Longoria and Geovany Soto gave an All-Star glimpse of things to come.

Longoria won the American League Rookie of the Year award in a unanimous vote and Soto ran away with the NL honor Monday, capping impressive seasons that included All-Star appearances for both players at Yankee Stadium.

Pretty rare stuff for a pair of first-timers—but these were no ordinary freshmen.

"I had a great year, bar none," Longoria said. "I know I have the ability to do more."

Following a season of breakthroughs for the AL champion Rays, Longoria became the first Tampa Bay player to win a national award from the Baseball Writers' Association of America. The power-hitting third baseman received all 28 first-place votes, making him the league's first unanimous rookie winner since Nomar Garciaparra in 1997.

Soto, the steady catcher with pop who helped the Cubs win the NL Central, got 31 of 32 first-place votes. The other went to Cincinnati's Joey Votto.

"It's kind of surreal. It really hasn't sunk in yet," Soto said on a conference call from Puerto Rico.

Called up from the minors in April, Longoria batted .272 with 27 homers and 85 RBIs despite missing five weeks after breaking his right wrist Aug. 7. Confident at the plate and splendid on defense, he was a big reason for the Rays' stunning surge to the World Series after 10 straight losing seasons.

"I definitely felt some awe most of the time during the season. I kept that to myself," Longoria said on a conference call from his California home. "I didn't start the year in the big leagues. I struggled all the way through high school ball and college ball. The journey that I went through as a baseball player—to be sitting here means a lot."

Chicago White Sox second baseman Alexei Ramirez was the runner-up after receiving 18 second-place votes. Boston outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury finished third.

Soto hit .285 with 23 homers, 35 doubles and 86 RBIs. He became the first catcher to win Rookie of the Year in either league since Mike Piazza of the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1993.

The previous winner from the Cubs was pitcher Kerry Wood 10 years ago.

"I just didn't want to put extra pressure on myself. I just wanted to do my job as the team required," Soto said.

The Rays were so sure Longoria would become a big star that they gave him a $17.5 million, six-year contract after only six major league games. The deal could be worth up to $44.5 million over nine seasons.

So far, he's delivered.

Tampa Bay started play in 1998 and had never won more than 70 games until Longoria helped lead the Rays to 97 wins this year and the AL East title. He also hit a tying double with two outs in the eighth inning during the July 15 All-Star game in New York.

Soto became the first National League rookie catcher to start an All-Star game. In addition to his productive hitting all season, he did a nice job handling a Cubs pitching staff that compiled a 3.87 ERA, third-best in the NL. He even caught a no-hitter by Carlos Zambrano.

Soto credited backup catcher Henry Blanco and other veteran teammates for giving him advice and pep talks that guided him through a "roller coaster" year.

"That's what helped me have a strong season all the way around," Soto said. "I did try to act very sure about myself, very secure. But I had doubts."

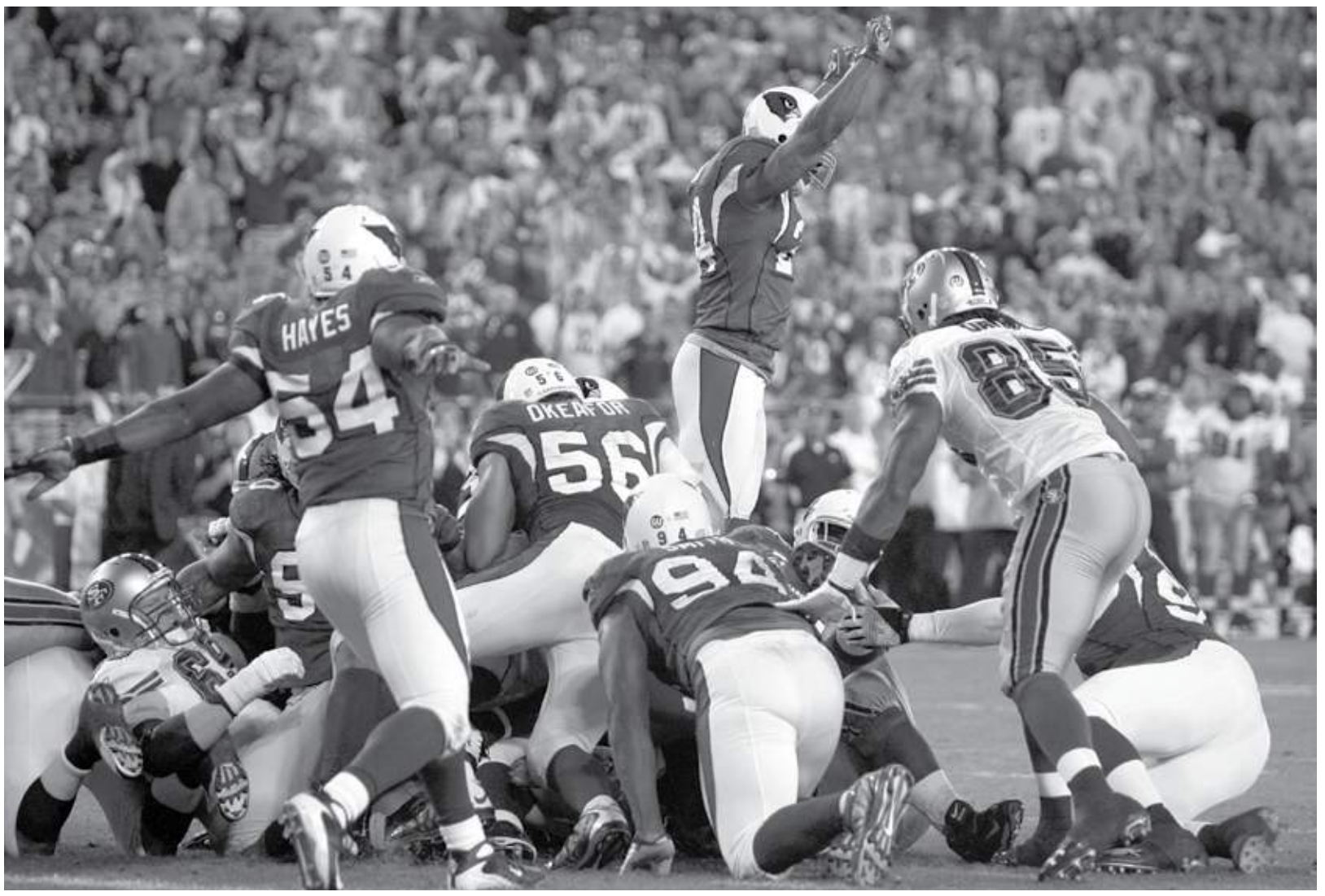
After his injury, Longoria, who turned 23 last month, returned in time for Tampa Bay's playoff run. He homered in his first two postseason at-bats against the White Sox, then connected four times against Boston in the AL championship series to set a rookie record with six homers in one postseason.

But his offensive tear ended in the World Series, when Longoria went 1-for-20 with nine strikeouts and two RBIs as the Philadelphia Phillies beat Tampa Bay in five games.

"Obviously, I would have loved to play well and help the team," Longoria said. "I was still pretty content that we had a great year."

The 25-year-old Soto had a disappointing October after his team compiled the best regular-season record in the National League. Bothered by a nagging hand injury, he went 2-for-11 (.182) with no RBIs as Chicago was swept in the first round by the Dodgers, leaving the Cubs without a World Series title since 1908.

Warner rallies Cardinals past 49ers



AP

The San Francisco 49ers are stopped by the Arizona Cardinals defensive line during final play of an NFL football game Monday, Nov. 10, 2008 in Glendale, Ariz.

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP)—Kurt Warner's ageless arm and an improbable goal-line stand at the finish saved the Arizona Cardinals from an ugly loss on a national stage.

The Cardinals stopped Michael Robinson up the middle from the 2-yard line as the game ended Monday night to preserve a 29-24 victory over the San Francisco 49ers.

Warner finished 32-of-42 for 328 yards and three touchdowns without an interception in Arizona's sixth consecutive home victory, fourth this season.

The NFC West-leading Cardinals (6-3) never led until Karlos Dansby's 34-yard interception return set up Warner's 5-yard TD pass to Anquan Boldin with 4:16 to play.

San Francisco (2-7) had two chances after that.

The first ended on Adrian Wilson's diving interception of Shaun Hill's pass. The second was much more nerve-racking for the home team and exasperating for the 49ers, who lost their sixth in a row.

Hill's 14-yard pass to Jason Hill moved it to the Arizona 1. With the last few seconds ticking off, 49ers running back Frank Gore was pushed by a defensive player as he ran around left end, then stumbled to the ground just outside the 2.

After officials reviewed the play to make sure Gore was down by contact, the 49ers handed off to the fullback Robinson, who was stuffed nowhere near the goal line.

Arizona coach Ken Whisenhunt stressed the positives, including the goal-line stand.

"We found a way to win a tough game, which is something you have to do," he said.

The Cardinals won on Monday night for the first time since they moved to the desert 20 years ago and opened a four-game lead in the NFC West. The other three teams in the division—San Francisco, Seattle and St. Louis—are all 2-7.

Allen Rossum returned the opening kickoff 104 yards for a touchdown and the 49ers never trailed until Arizona's late score.

"It would have been nice to have a blowout but hey, those games are sweet when you win," Warner said. "Man, it's fun. It's fun to pull these out. It would have been a heartbreaker to have lost it."

Shaun Hill, replacing the benched J.T. O'Sullivan for his third career start in seven NFL seasons, threw for two touchdowns in the first half but lost a fumble and threw two interceptions in the second. He finished 19-of-40 for 217 yards.

Rossum, who left the Seattle game two weeks ago with a hamstring injury, showed no ill effects on the opening kickoff. He caught the ball four yards deep in the end zone, then ran upfield and darted to his left, going untouched yards for a touchdown.

It was his fifth career kickoff return for a score and was just one yard short of the team record.

Tight end Vernon Davis, sent to the locker room by interim coach Mike Singletary's two weeks ago during a loss to Seattle, caught an 18-yard pass over the back of Wilson for a touchdown with 29 seconds left in the half to give San Francisco a 21-13 lead.

The 49ers had gone ahead 14-3 on Josh Morgan's juggling catch of Hill's 31-yard touchdown pass with 14:13 left in the half.

That's when Arizona's vaunted offense finally got in gear. Warner's 46-yard pass—at least 50 yards in the air—to Steve Breaston set up a 13-yard TD pass to Boldin that cut the lead to 14-10. Neil Rackers' second field goal of the half, from 33 yards, made it 14-13.

But the 49ers went 77 yards in 14 plays for their final first-half touchdown. The crucial play came on third-and-11 from the San Francisco 22 when Shaun Hill kept the ball, had his helmet ripped off but still got the final two yards of a 12-yard gain for the first down.

A fast start for No. 8 Duke

DURHAM, N.C. (AP)—Kyle Singler scored 12 of his 19 points during the decisive first half, and No. 8 Duke opened its season by routing Presbyterian 80-49 on Monday night in the first round of the 2K Sports Classic.

Singler added 10 rebounds and Nolan Smith scored 15 points for the Blue Devils (1-0), who used two dominating spurts to overwhelm the cold-shooting Blue Hose, win their 60th straight nonconference game at Cameron Indoor Stadium and improve to 27-2 in home openers under coach Mike Krzyzewski.

Lance Thomas and Jon Scheyer added 12 points apiece for Duke, which faces Georgia Southern, which beat Houstron 65-63, on Tuesday night with a semifinal berth at Madison Square Garden on the line.

After rolling to two exhibition victories against Division II schools by an average of 58.5 points, the Blue Devils were met with only slightly more resistance from a Presbyterian program entering its second season in Division I.

Duke—which hasn't lost the first game at its notoriously noisy arena since 1982, and won its ninth straight season opener overall—denied the Blue Hose (0-1) their first road victory in 24 tries at this level.

Duke controlled both ends of the court, holding the Blue Hose to 1-of-11 shooting during one early stretch before reeling off 19 straight points—coming away with points on seven straight trips downcourt—to take a 20-point lead. At one point late in the half, the Blue Hose had more than twice as many turnovers (11) as field goals (five).

It was precisely the kind of performance expected of a Blue Devils team that returns nine of the top 11 scorers from an offense that ranked fourth nationally last season by averaging 83.2 points.

Duke took the lead for good during the defense-dominated 13-2 run during which the Blue Devils allowed one basket during a 7 1/2-minute stretch, a spurt capped by Greg Paulus' 3-pointer from the left wing that made it 13-4 with 12 1/2 minutes before halftime.

Then, they gave themselves plenty of breathing room with the Smith- and Scheyer-keyed 19-0 run, a burst capped by Gerald Henderson's free throw with 3:51 left that made it 36-11. By that point, Scheyer had 12 points by himself, prompting those clever Cameron Crazies to chant, "Scheyer's winning."

Al'Lonzo Coleman finished with 13 points to lead Presbyterian, and his layup 17 seconds in gave the Blue Hose their only lead. Freshman Bo King also had 13 points on 3-of-15 shooting.

Presbyterian will play Houston on Tuesday in a consolation game.

NFL BRIEFS

Jets bring back cornerback Ty Law

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP)—Ty Law is back with the New York Jets—just in time to play against the New England Patriots. The five-time Pro Bowl cornerback agreed to terms on a one-year deal with the Jets on Monday after sitting out the first 10 weeks of the season as a free agent. "Things appear to be headed in that direction," a person familiar with the signing told The Associated Press. The NFL Network first reported the signing on its Web site Monday night. The Jets wouldn't confirm the deal because it had not yet been completed, likely pending a physical. The 34-year-old Law, who has 52 career interceptions, played for the Jets in 2005 before spending the last two seasons with Kansas City. He garnered interest from New York and New England, where he played the first 10 years of his NFL career. Law jumps back into one of the league's biggest rivalries as the Jets play at New England on Thursday night, with the winner taking sole possession of first place in the AFC East. "This is going to be different playing Thursday night against the Patriots, matching up against my former team and the players I'm used to practicing against," Law told the NFL Network. "I know they're going to throw at me, but I welcome the challenge."

Arm injury to LB Adalius Thomas more bad news

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—Adalius Thomas is the latest Patriots starter who might miss time after the linebacker suffered what could be a long-term arm injury. Thomas didn't return after leaving the Patriots 20-10 win over the Buffalo Bills midway through the second quarter Sunday. The Patriots said only that he hurt his arm, but ESPN.com, quoting unnamed sources, reported Thomas broke his left forearm and "likely" will miss the rest of the season. Team spokesman Stacey James said Monday the next injury update would come after Tuesday's practice. A spokesman for Thomas' agent, James "Bus" Cook Jr., said the player had not returned a phone call to Cook. "I think it'll be difficult" to replace Thomas, said Mike Vrabel, the team's other starting outside linebacker. "He was a leader. He was a veteran guy that played well and we'll just have to find guys to step up." Thomas leads the Patriots with five sacks in his second season with the team. He was a rookie on Baltimore's team that won the Super Bowl after the 2000 season and was chosen for Pro Bowls in 2003 and 2006.

Jury orders NFL union to pay $28.1M to retirees

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A federal jury on Monday ordered the NFL Players Association to pay $28.1 million to retired players after finding the union failed to properly market their images. The jury said the union owed the retirees $7.1 million in actual damages for failing to include them in lucrative marketing deals with Electronic Arts Inc., the maker of the popular "Madden NFL" video games, sporting card companies and other sponsorship agreements. Hall of Fame cornerback Herb Adderley filed the lawsuit last year on behalf of 2,056 retired players who contend the union failed to actively pursue marketing deals on their behalf with video games, trading cards and others sports products. The lawyers and judge still must decide how to divvy up the jury's award, some of which will go to attorneys' fees. Adderley, 69, played cornerback for the Green Bay Packers and Dallas Cowboys and appeared in four of the first six Super Bowls. He appeared every day in court wearing his yellow "NFL Alumni" sports jacket and wept when the jury's verdict was read.

DCCA shuts out P&S in govt/biz softball league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Defending champion Department of Community and Cultural Affairs gained its second straight win after shutting out Procurement & Supply, 12-0, in the Budweiser 2008 Inter-Government/Business Softball League Friday night at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The victory put DCCA in the lead with its 2-0 record, sharing the top spot in the men's division with Freedom Air, Legislature, Joeten Motors, Beach Boys, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and Law & Order.

DCCA, which is seeking its third championship in a row this season, finished off P&S after only four and a half innings.

Shortstop Luis Iguel went perfect at-bat, going 3-for-3. He made a two-run double in the second inning, scored three runs, and recorded three RBIs.

Pitcher Mel Sakisat, third baseman Ben Tagabuel, and outfielder Darren Flores all went 2-for-3 at the plate. First baseman Joey Dela Cruz was only 1-for-3 at-bat, but had three RBIs.

Sakisat pitched in no relief for DCCA, allowing only four hits and walking three.

No P&S runner went past second base against the DCCA's tough defense.

DCCA was also victorious in the women's division, slipping past Finance, 13-9.

DCCA dropped its debut against Northern Marianas College, but is now on a two-game winning run. The defending champion recorded its first win against the Commonwealth Health Center, 15-3.

Centerfielder Bert Camacho went 3-for-4 at-bat for DCCA, scored three runs, and had two RBIs.

Outfielder Doris Rangamar was also 3-for-4, making two runs and one RBI. Three other DCCA players hit 2-for-4 at the plate and nailed two runs apiece.

Jennifer Teigita, Antonette Laniyo, and Rangamar had one run apiece at the top of the seventh to give DCCA insurance runs and foil Finance's repeated comeback bids.

After six and a half innings, DCCA led, 13-7, and Finance must score at least six runs to extend the game. But Finance drew only one run apiece from Lenice Kapileo and Liz Lebria.

With the win, DCCA, which topped CUC in last season's finals, is now in the lead in the women's division.

Finance dropped to a 1-1 record for third place. NMC is in second place with a 1-0 record, while CHC and CUC are tied with identical 1-1 marks.

In other results, CPA joined the seven-way tie for the lead in the men's division after downing DLNR, 20-12.

CPA used an eight-run top of the third as cushion to seize control of the game. CPA was trailing, 4-6, after two complete innings when it began making runs after another in the third inning.

Shortstop Melvin Manahane went 5-for-5 at-bat, scoring two runs, one double and four RBIs.

Outfielder Mark Toves also had four RBIs and hit 3-for-4 at the plate.

Man qualifies for RGA Club Championship

Bae Yong Man qualified for next month's Refaluwasch Golf Association 2008 Club Championship after carding a score of net 69 last Saturday during the club's November Ace of the Month Tournament.

Held in conjunction with the Inaugural RGA Memorial Classic, Man actually finished fourth behind John Rebuenog (64), July Ace Manny Mangarero (68), and Rey Tigilao (69).

The South Korean, however, bagged the slot for the yearned tournament since Rebuenog and Tigilao didn't have enough qualifiers and tourneys under their belts to advance to the Club Championship and Mangarero already won earlier this year.

Man wound up with the score to beat following a superb round that saw him card the day's only under-par gross score of 69.

He actually struggled a bit in the first nine holes, needing three extra swings (38) but more than made up for it in the back nine, where he went on to score a 33.

A total of 21 RGA members took part in the competition. The players, with their scores in parenthesis, were as follows: Dwain Stephens (net 71), Luis Byun (71), Asterio Tawanpiy (71), Jess Wabol (72), Adam Hardwicke (73), Sonny Flores (74), John Mettao (75), Jordan Kossam (75), Tars Olopai (76), Tony Rogolifoi (77), Tom Tebuteb (79), Louis Tilipao (79), Ed Tenorio (79), Joe Demapan (79), Ulysis Kapileo (81), and Jay Choi (85).

CHRISTIAN

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become a better player.

"My baseline game was pretty good but not my net play. I think I need to work more on my volleys. If I'm going to go up the net I should make a better attacking shot. [I should] make a move so when he returns it I should have enough time to get ready and hit that volley," he said.

While he lost, Jones said he couldn't be happier for his best friend Miller.

"I wouldn't really call him an enemy I just call him a friend because we usually spend a lot of time with each other off the court," he said.

Miller advanced to the finals after topping Jake Lee, 8-4. Jones, for his part, had a rougher road to the finals, needing a 9-7 score to oust Lucas Nutting.

Three other division finals were settled yesterday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts with the result of the championship match in the girls' 10-and-under between Tammy Ackerman and Emily Jones still not available as of press time.

Tinian tennis sensation Benjie Decena won the boys' 18-and-under after beating Woo Suk Chang in the finals Sunday, 8-2.

Both players cruised to the championship with Decena recording an 8-2 win over Joseph Jang, while Chang was more impressive following an 8-0 blanking of Nathan Nutting.

In the girls' 18-and-under, POJC veteran Thea Minor was head and shoulders above the competition, winning the compass draw-format competition after beating sister Thecel (8-2) and Jodel Fernandez (8-1).

Ilia Corella, for her part, went undefeated in the girls' 14-and-under, while Kennedy Izuka topped the boys' 10-and-under after beating Dylan Ackerman, 6-4, in a closely contested finals.

The awards banquet of the Tan Holdings Corp.-sponsored tournament was held last night at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. The three-day competition was organized by the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association.

SAKUDI

From Page 28

on going 24-for-39 in the regular season for a batting average of .615.

Julian Camacho of Brotherhood had the most runs scored with 14, while Taisacan scored the most doubles (4) and triples (4).

Ayuyu was the home run king making six round-trippers, while Laniyo earned his second individual trophy after topping the RBIs race.

Payton Sakuma topped the strikeouts category striking out 16 batters, while PTI's Roque Camacho led the league in pitching with his 0.90 ERA. Sablan and Limes were named Coach and Manager of the Year, respectively.

In the women's division, Sakudi's Pauline Tudela ruled the batting race with her average of .625 after hitting 15-for-24.

Teammates Bert Camacho led the league in runs scored with 13, while, Jenny Palacios ranked first in the most doubles (4) and triples (2) scored.

Mellisa Benjamin was the homerun queen with her two homers, while Ohn Sakau teammates Merselyn Santos and Roquita Santos were tied with the most RBIs with 11 each.

Atu-Asi's Meng Yamada recorded the most strikeouts with 16, while Bego Camacho prevailed in the pitching race wth her 2.15 ERA.

The Hitters' Felisa Brel, who also pitched for her team, won the Coach of the Year award, while Sakudi's Ed Mendiola was named Manager of the Year.

In the team awards, Atu-Asi went home with the Sportsmanship Award in the women's division, while Haga T took the same trophy for the men's division.

Sakudi and Brotherhood claimed the pennant championship trophies.

League organizer Brian Adelbai thanked MARPAC and other sponsors for their support to the annual league.

TITLE

From Page 28

matches were unavailable at press time.

Acme Roofing was seeded first in the playoffs after claiming the pennant and finishing the regular season with a perfect 10-0 record.

Off Twice caught the last bus going to the playoffs with its 5-5 record. Actually, Off Twice tied two other teams—MHS Oakies and Kimoichi—for the win-loss mark, but Off Twice lost in the tiebreak with the least points scored in 11 games. Off Twice garnered 524 points to settle for eighth place, the MHS Oakies has 537 to drop to seventh, and Kimoichi earned 559 to claim the No. 6 spot.

Karakuchi finished the regular season with a 6-4 record and tied the MHS Peers and Thai One On. But Karakuchi moved to third with its 580 points. MHS Peers was relegated to fourth with 577 points, while Thai One On settled for fifth with 483 points.

Enyophace was in solo second place with a 9-1 slate.

The winners of the Acme Roofing-Off Twice tiff and Thai One On-MHS Peers match will duel for the first championship ticket tomorrow at 5:30pm.

At 6:30pm, the victors of the Karakuchi vs. Kimoichi and MHS Oakies vs Enyophace will battle for the second finals seat.

The title match will be played at 7:30pm.

DANIEL

From Page 28

minutes of play.

Daniel led by only three at halftime, 44-41.

But when Esdrelon and Dela Paz stepped up in the second and three other Daniel players also found their targets, things began to go against Ezekiel's way.

Daniel had three players scoring eight points apiece in the second half to hand Ezekiel its fourth straight loss. Talania continued to make his way to the basket, scoring eight markers. Sam Fernandez and Darwin Barbo were the two other Daniel players to hit eight points in the second half to outscore Ezekiel, 54-36.

Capalad slowed down in the second half, as he was limited to six points. Actually, most of Ezekiel players struggled offensively in the second half, as it had only five players making it to the scoreboard with Moises leading the team with 10 points. Krystian Villanueva had nine, Jhun Baltazar chipped in six, and Brendon Perez added five.

Daniel 98 – Talania 20, Esdrelon 15, D. Barbo 14, Fernandez 14, Dela Paz 13, Culala 8, Ong 6, G. Barbo 6, Ortega 2.

Ezekiel 77 – Moises 20, Capalad 18, Baltazar 12, Topacio 11, Rago 5, Perez 5, Valencia 2.

Scoring by halves: 44-41, 98-77.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	7	1	.875	–
New York	4	2	.667	2
Toronto	4	3	.571	2 1/2
New Jersey	2	4	.333	4
Philadelphia	2	4	.333	4

Southeast Division

Atlanta	5	0	1.000	–
Miami	4	3	.571	2
Orlando	4	3	.571	2
Charlotte	2	4	.333	3 1/2
Washington	0	5	.000	5

Central Division

Cleveland	5	2	.714	–
Detroit	4	2	.667	1/2
Indiana	3	3	.500	1 1/2
Chicago	3	4	.429	2
Milwaukee	3	4	.429	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

New Orleans	4	2	.667	–
Houston	4	3	.571	1/2
Memphis	3	5	.375	2
Dallas	2	4	.333	2
San Antonio	1	4	.200	2 1/2

Northwest Division

Utah	5	1	.833	–
Portland	4	3	.571	1 1/2
Denver	3	3	.500	2
Minnesota	1	5	.167	4
Oklahoma City	1	6	.143	4 1/2

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	5	0	1.000	–
Phoenix	6	2	.750	1/2
Sacramento	3	4	.429	3
Golden State	2	5	.286	4
L.A. Clippers	1	6	.143	5

Yesterday's Games

Portland 106, Orlando 99
Indiana 107, Oklahoma City 99
Boston 94, Toronto 87
Miami 99, New Jersey 94
Phoenix 107, Memphis 102

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	6	3	0	.667	188	160
N.Y. Jets	6	3	0	.667	255	190
Miami	5	4	0	.556	192	182
Buffalo	5	4	0	.556	192	189

South

Tennessee	9	0	0	1.000	220	117
Indianapolis	5	4	0	.556	191	197
Jacksonville	4	5	0	.444	198	186
Houston	3	6	0	.333	209	254

North

Pittsburgh	6	3	0	.667	198	140
Baltimore	6	3	0	.667	212	150
Cleveland	3	6	0	.333	172	194
Cincinnati	1	8	0	.111	125	236

West

Denver	5	4	0	.556	224	251
San Diego	4	5	0	.444	244	218
Oakland	2	7	0	.222	113	218
Kansas City	1	8	0	.111	145	243

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

N.Y. Giants	8	1	0	.889	262	160
Washington	6	3	0	.667	171	168
Dallas	5	4	0	.556	216	219
Philadelphia	5	4	0	.556	251	180

South

Carolina	7	2	0	.778	191	133
Tampa Bay	6	3	0	.667	200	147
Atlanta	6	3	0	.667	211	174
New Orleans	4	5	0	.444	236	229

North

Chicago	5	4	0	.556	237	194
Minnesota	5	4	0	.556	210	215
Green Bay	4	5	0	.444	237	206
Detroit	0	9	0	.000	151	277

West

Arizona	6	3	0	.667	263	208
Seattle	2	7	0	.222	170	231
San Francisco	2	7	0	.222	195	259
St. Louis	2	7	0	.222	128	282

Yesterday's Game

Arizona 29, San Francisco 24

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

BUDWEISER SOFTBALL STANDINGS

Men's Division

Freedom Air	2	0
Legislature	2	0
Joeten Motors	2	0
Beach Boys	2	0
Law & Order	2	0
DCCA	2	0
CPA	2	0
DLNR	1	1
P & S	1	1
SaipanCell	1	1
CUC	1	1
No Zone	1	1
CHC	1	1
PIC	0	2
PSS	0	2
Customs	0	2
DEQ/CRM	0	2
Mayors	0	2
POI	0	2
Hopwood	0	2

Women's Division

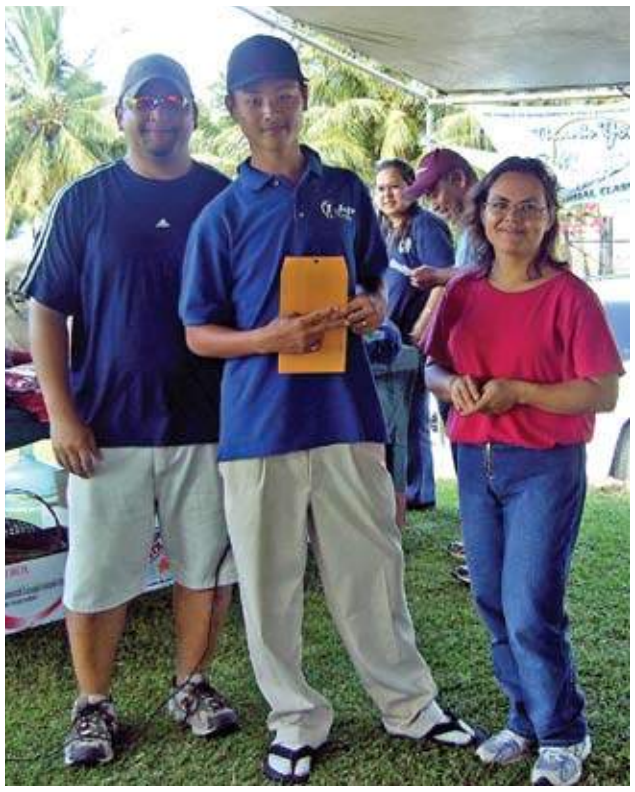
DCCA	2	1
NMC	1	0
Finance	1	1
CUC	0	1
CHC	0	1

GENESIS CUP STANDINGS

Daniel	3	0
Isaiah	2	1
Jeremiah	1	1
Ezekiel	0	4

Inaugural RGA Memorial Classic

Photos by MARK RABAGO



Luis Byun, center, finished the tournament with a net score of 73.

Refaluwasch Golf Association president and CNMI Chief Public Defender Adam Hardwicke recognizes participants and sponsors of the Inaugural RGA Memorial Classic.

Ben Jones is congratulated by RGA president Adam Hardwicke during the awards banquet.

Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School principal Charlotte Camacho extends her thanks to Refaluwasch Golf Association as well as players and sponsors of the Inaugural RGA Memorial Classic during the event's awards banquet Saturday at the Marianas Country Club grounds. Part of the proceeds from the one-day golf tourney will be donated to her school.

Far left, the tourney's youngest participant 13-year-old Jason Lee, center, finished seventh in the double peoria competition with a net 69.

Left, Asterio Tawanpiy poses with organizers as he claims his prize.

Right, Terry Attao, center, finished second in the ladies gross.

Far right, Shirley Jones, center, finished first in the women's gross and second in the double peoria categories.

Far left, Retired Superior Court presiding judge Edward Manibusan took third place in the men's gross with his 3-over 75.

Left, RGA tournament director Jess Wabol took second place in the men's gross with his 2-over 74.

DCCA shuts out P&S in govt/biz softball league

Defending champion Department of Community and Cultural Affairs gained its second straight win after shutting out Procurement & Supply, 12-0, in the Budweiser 2008 Inter-Government/Business Softball League Friday night at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield. **26**

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Dwyane Wade rallies Heat past Nets

Dwyane Wade scored 19 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter, and the Miami Heat rallied from a 10-point deficit midway through the final quarter to beat the New Jersey Nets 99-94 on Monday night. **24**

Christian outlasts Rafael in Fall Classic

MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Christian Miller defeated Rafael Jones in the finals of the boys' 14-and-under yesterday at the conclusion of the 2008 Fall Classic Junior Tennis Championships.

Best friends off the court, but competitive rivals on it, Miller and Jones treated the 20 or so tennis enthusiasts that watched the game at the American Memorial Park with a nip-and-tuck match that saw the latter race to a 2-0 lead.

Miller, however, quickly came back by holding serve and breaking Jones in the next two games to knot the count at 2-2.

Both players held serve the next eight games before Miller and Jones exchanged break of service games to make it 6-6.

Jones was plagued by a couple of double faults that prevented him from opening up a more comfortable lead, while Miller stuck to the baseline waiting for his opponent's missteps.

Miller was the aggressor in the 13th game, holding serve easily as Jones found the net in more than several occasions.

With Jones serving, Miller relied on his consistent baseline shots and didn't flinch when the latter charged the net.

After taking the first point in what turned out to be the final game, Jones played catch up the rest of the way.

Leading 40-30, Miller hit the ball hard and Jones failed to make a successful return when the ball nipped the top of the net anew delivering the championship to his fellow 2008 Pacific Oceania Junior Championship campaigner.

Miller, whose win upped his championship record against Jones to 3-1, said overall he was happy with his effort in the finals.

"My serves were more than an advantage to me. My first serves were coming in more consistently and my backhand was definitely better. I think he (Jones) could've played his approach shots better," said Miller, who dedicated the win to his grandfather who died recently.

For his part, Jones took the loss in stride and vowed to improve on parts of his game to

See CHRISTIAN on Page 26

MARK RABAGO
Christian Miller, right, and Rafael Jones in action during the finals of the boys' 14-and-under division of the 2008 Fall Classic Junior Tennis Championships yesterday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

Sakudi, Brotherhood players sweep MVP awards

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Belau Amateur Softball Association concluded the 2008 Budweiser BASA Men's and Women's Softball League with an award ceremony at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield Sunday with Sakudi and Brotherhood bringing home the most trophies.

Jerry Ayuyu, who blasted two homers in Brotherhood's 11-4 win over Man Amigos in the deciding game of the best-of-three title series in the men's division, walked away with the Finals MVP.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Left, Finals MVP Jerry Ayuyu of Brotherhood is congratulated by BASA officer Mike Towai during the award ceremony for the 2008 Budweiser BASA Men's and Women's Softball League Sunday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield Sunday.

Teammate J.J. Laniyo took home the regular season MVP.

In the women's division, Sakudi pitcher Bego Camacho claimed the Finals MVP plum, while another Sakudi player—Jenny Palacios—notched the regular season MVP trophy.

Camacho and Palacios helped Sakudi edge the Hitters in the do-or-die Game 3, 4-2.

Other individual awardees in the men's division were Thunderson Soku, Julian Camacho, Ben Taisacan, Payton Sakuma, Roque Camacho, Vinny Sablan, and Bill Limes.

Soku was the batting champi-

See SAKUDI on Page 26

Daniel remains unbeaten

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Daniel had an explosive second half en route to an easy 98-77 victory over Ezekiel in the 2008 CIM-FCC Inter-Color Basketball League-3rd Genesis Cup Friday night at the CIM-FCC Basketball Court in Gualo Rai.

It was Daniel's third win in as many games strengthening its hold to the No. 1 spot, while Ezekiel remained winless in four games.

Elmer Esdrelon and Ricky Dela Paz, who were held to four points apiece in the first half, found their rhythms in the second to lead Daniel's breakaway in the final half of the game.

Esdrelon nailed 11 points in the second half, while Dela Paz fired nine.

Brendon Talania took the scoring cudgels for Daniel in the first half, drilling 12 points.

But Ezekiel's White Capalad held his ground against Talania with the former also nailing 12 markers. Capalad drew help from Ernie Moises, who added 10 in the first half keeping Ezekiel afloat after 20

See DANIEL on Page 26

Title match in beach V-ball league scheduled for tomorrow not tonight

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Organizers of the 2008 Miller Lite Four-Person Beach Volleyball League announced that the second and last round of the playoffs will be played tomorrow not tonight as earlier mentioned.

The annual fall league concluded the regular season last week and started the playoffs last night on the PIC sand court. Eight teams made it into the playoffs and three were eliminated.

Acme Roofing was playing Off Twice in the first game of the playoffs. Other first round playoffs schedule set for yesterday were Thai One On vs. MHS Peers; Karakuchi vs. Kimoichi; MHS Oakies vs. Enyophace. This year's playoff round has a single-elimination format.

Results of the first round

See TITLE on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MHS Serves Up!'s Mark Reyes returns to Thai One On during their game in the regular season of the 2008 Miller Lite Four-Person Beach Volleyball League. The league started its playoffs last night on the PIC sand court and will be holding the title game tomorrow.